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FOURTEEN PAGES — ONE RIYAL

Welcomed by Sadat

Shah arrives in Cairo

CAIRO, March 24 (AP) — The deposed Shah of Iran found a permanent refuge in Egypt Monday but it was unclear what effect the end of his year-long odyssey would have on the American hostages in Tehran.

Looking haggard and much older than his 60 years, the Shah came seeking medical treatment and was told by President Anwar Sadat he could stay in Egypt "permanently."

No other country in the world, including the United States, has been openly willing to take him in, fearing retaliation by Iran. Egypt was his first stop when he began his exile in January 1979, and he successively moved on to Morocco, the Bahamas, Mexico, the United States and Panama before returning to Cairo.

Relations between Egypt and Iran are broken, there are no Egyptian diplomats in Tehran and there is no extradition treaty between the two countries.

The Shah fled Panama only 24 hours before lawyers for the Tehran regime were to file a formal extradition request seeking the return of Mohammad Reza Pahlavi for alleged crimes against his people.

Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Ghotbzadeh told the official Pars news agency the American hostages would be handed over to the custody of the revolutionary council if the Shah returned to Panama.

But perhaps more indicative of Iran's slim hopes was an earlier radio commentary fulminating against Sadat and saying the Shah's presence here "may speed up the explosion that will send the Shah and Sadat to the dustbin of history."

The return of the Shah is still the standard demand of the militants who have been holding the estimated 50 Americans hostage in Tehran for the past 142 days.

Sadat has repeatedly said that granting asylum to the Shah was merely an act of humanitarian charity in keeping with Muslim tradition. But coming at this time, it may also have political dividends.

Administration officials in Washington said the Shah had a standing invitation to return to the United States for treatment, but instead chose to come to Egypt. By keeping the door open, Sadat may well have earned U.S. gratitude just a few weeks before summit talks with President Carter on the deadlocked Palestinian autonomy negotiations with Israel.

Sadat met the Shah at Cairo airport and the two, accompanied by their wives, took a helicopter to the Maadi Military Hospital five miles south of the city.

The Shah said he would be willing to talk to reporters "after the operation." Sadat, replying to questions whether the Shah would remain in Egypt, said "Yes, yes, permanently."

The Sadats accompanied the Shah to his wing on the second floor of the hospital, which overlooks the Nile. After a brief stay, Mrs. Jihan Sadat and former Empress Farah parted with kisses and the Shah and his entourage remained in the hospital.

Iran's state-run Tehran radio Monday accused the United States of helping the exiled Shah find refuge in Egypt and warned that "the Rockefeller, Kissingers and Carters cannot sleep easy" now.

The radio, monitored in London, warned that the United States will not "gain from this conspiracy to save the Hitler of our age."

The radio made no direct reference to the 50 hostages held for 21 weeks in the U.S. embassy in Tehran in a bid to force the return of the Shah on charges of mass murders and corruption.

However, Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Ghotbzadeh warned Saturday that moving the Shah from Panama would delay any possible release of the embassy hostages.

The radio said in a Farsi language broadcast that Washington was using "every trick and every way of exerting pressure to help this Eichmann of the age in his endless flight."

The radio warned, without elaboration, "The day will eventually come when the oppressed people of America themselves will bring their rules to book and ask them why they have become such worshippers of criminals."

Tehran radio said the Shah, "Iran's fugitive criminal," was forced to leave his Panamanian island refuge for Cairo because of pressure from Iran's revolutionary regime which is seeking his extradition.

It warned that Sadat may be toppled because he has given the exiled monarch sanctuary again.

Islamic Egypt "cannot stand this germ of corruption for long" following Sadat's controversial peace treaty with Israel.

The radio went on, "In their trickery and pressurizing, the U.S. imperialist leaders had made the greatest use of our disunity and dissent, as a result of which, over a year after the fall of the Shah, we are still engaged in compiling the documents on his crimes to be sent to this or that authority. Our disunity allows our enemy to attack us."

The broadcast added: "It is up to us to think why he cannot direct all the possibilities and the great power of our people's belief, which has so far given rise to many miracles, towards a single goal and add other victories to our previous successes."

SAMA predicts normal growth rate

RIYADH, March 24 (SPA) — Saudi Arabia's economy will develop at normal rates of growth in the future after the unprecedented growth rates of the past five years, according to the annual report of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency.

The report, which was submitted to King Khaled Monday by SAMA Governor Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Quraishi, said the growth of the economy will continue in a more satisfactory now that inflationary pressures have been eliminated. Locally generated inflation has also been eliminated, the report said.

"These accomplishments have been reflected in our daily lives," the report added. "There are no more port congestion, waiting periods have been reduced to nothing, transport services are better, electricity supplies are more reliable and telecommunications services adequate."

"Because of the wise policy of our government," the report said, "the major economic sectors are working in a better manner than ever before."

The gross domestic product of the past year achieved a real growth of 7.6 per cent, higher than last year's 5.9 per cent. The non-oil private sector continued to contribute to development and achieved a growth rate of 13.7 per cent which is about the same as last year's figure.

The first years of the second five-year plan recorded gross domestic product growth rate of 9.2 per cent. The oil sector recorded a slower rate of 3.7 per cent while the targeted rate for the second plan was 9.7 per cent. This result had no direct relation with the Saudi Arabian economy. But the private sector during the same period recorded a growth rate of 16.2 per cent against a targeted rate of 13.4 per cent under the plan and the real growth rate under the first plan of 11 per cent.

Imports continued to rise and the gap between exports and imports narrowed from 62.5 per cent during 1974-1975 to 52.8 during 1977-1978 and is expected to fall further during 1978-1979.

This shows that the Kingdom was capable of absorbing all its income from oil exports, the report said.

Consumption and gross capital formation



SAMA REPORT: King Khaled receives Saudi Arabia Monetary Agency (SAMA) report from the agency's Governor Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Quraishi Monday.

tion exceeded the export share in gross expenditure rising from 24.2 per cent in 1974-75 to 43.8 per cent in 1977-78 and from 13.2 per cent to 20.4 per cent respectively. Capital formation continued to rise in the year 1978-79 to more than a third of the gross expenditure.

The government succeeded in reducing consumption demand while the private sector raised its consumption due to increasingly higher private incomes.

On the other hand the government increased its capital formation by continuing to concentrate on investment programs.

While the government has succeeded in controlling inflationary pressures, the amount of cash liquidity increased through government spending and loans by government agencies and commercial banks. Liquidity amounted to SR109.4 billion during the year 1978-79 marking a growth rate of 10.6 per cent, against 62.9 per cent in the previous year which resulted in a balance of payment deficit in the private sector amounting to SR101.6 billion.

Because of slow growth in cash availability the supply of goods and services increased by 15.7 per cent during the year 1978-79 which helped narrow the inflationary gap. During 1978-79 the cost of living increased by 9.2 per cent against 40.4 per cent in 1975-76, 22.4 per cent in 1976-77 and 14.5 per cent in 1977-78.

The decrease was because of the fall in the cost of accommodation and certain commodities. The services sector rose slowly and in dwindling percentages which means that they will stabilize. The cost of living is less than suggested by the inflationary gap because of government subsidies on principal consumer commodities and price controls.

Other factors controlling inflation include the removal of bottlenecks and the development of the infrastructure which helped goods flow into local markets. There was a 12.8 per cent upward swing in the prices of goods assessed in dollars, but with the improvement in the exchange rate against the dollar the net increase was

8.7 per cent. Since imports constitute nearly half the real supplies of commodities, it was possible to reduce the effect of the rise through government subsidies, the rise in the exchange rate of the rial against the dollar, which amounted to 3.8 per cent, and the reduction of the profit margins because of the reduced gap between supply and demand, and the increase in competitiveness.

The government changed its expenditure priorities in favor of expanding the industrial and agricultural base. The estimated figure was specified for infrastructure projects which witnessed a vast expansion in the past years.

However, infrastructure will still attract part of the government's attention and will merit its share in the forthcoming budget. The actual government expenditure during the last four years of the second five-year plan amounted to SR495.5 billion.

Added to the estimated expenditure of SR160 billion for the fifth year of the plan, the total figure of actual expenditure during the second five year plan will rise to SR655.5 billion. The figure exceeds the planned SR498.2 billions for the entire five-year plan.

Loans to commercial banks increased by 75 per cent by the end of 1978-79. The loans rose by SR8.5 billion to SR19.7 billion. This is compared with SR2.8 billion, or 33.3 per cent increase in 1977-78.

The increase partly made up for the reduction in payments availability of cash — which resulted from the government's plan to regulate expenditure and reduce credits given by its agencies, and the increasing deficit in the balance of payments of the private sector.

That helped the private sector in financing its capital requirements and resulted in tight bank credits. SAMA reduced regulatory reserves from 15 per cent on gross deposits to 12 per cent on demand deposits and 2 per cent on savings deposits. Demand deposits were further reduced to seven per cent, lately.

Saudization of foreign banks is progressing satisfactorily. In 1979, Cairo Bank (Continued on page 2)

Chadli begins three-day visit to Jordan

AMMAN, March 24 (AP) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid arrived Monday from Syria for a three-day visit and "Arab solidarity" talks with King Hussein of Jordan.

It's Benjedid's first visit ever to Jordan since he became president in February 1979. Informants in Syria said that the Algerian leader was to arrange a summit conference of the "Steadfastness and Confrontation Front."

CFP denies reported oil find in N. Yemen

PARIS, March 24 (R) — The state-owned French Petroleum Company (CFP) Monday denied weekend reports that it had made a major oil discovery in North Yemen.

A company spokesman said CFP did not even have exploration permits in that country, and he knew of no new oilfield discoveries there.

He was commenting on a Kuwait newspaper report Sunday that CFP had discovered an oilfield in North Yemen which could prove to be the world's fifth largest with an estimated reserve of five billion barrels of medium quality crude oil.

— of Syria, Algeria, South Yemen, Libya, and the Palestine Liberation Organization — to discuss fresh action against the U.S.-sponsored Camp David peace drive between Egypt and Israel.

The conference would be held sometime in the second half of April, sources said. No firm date has been set, and the five powers were yet to agree on a venue, they added.

Benjedid's talks with the Jordanian monarch were aimed at keeping Hussein outside the Camp David process, these sources said.

Jordan is one of the Arab powers directly involved in the conflict with Israel, but it is not a member of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

Benjedid and Hussein also were to discuss ways of broadening economic and cultural cooperation.

The Algerian leader was scheduled to proceed to Baghdad on Wednesday for similar talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

While in Syria, Benjedid held closed session talks on the latest Middle East developments with the country's president Hafez Al-Assad. Prior to the last round of talks, the two presidents visited the city of Qunaitra, on

the Golan Heights, from which Israeli forces withdrew in 1974.

Benjedid wrote in the city's visitors book, "The traces of destruction and devastation which I saw today reminded me of the ordeal of our people in Algeria during the occupation and the armed struggle."

Benjedid also held talks in Damascus with Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasser Arafat and other Palestinian leaders.

The Palestine News Agency, WAF, said the two sides reviewed latest developments in the Palestine cause.

King meets sheikhs, Austrian minister

RIYADH, March 24 (SPA) — King Khaled received a number of religious leaders and sheikhs at his palace here Monday.

Earlier the King held talks with the Austrian Minister of Defense Otto Roschel. The minister arrived in the Kingdom Tuesday and Sunday concluded an arms agreement with Defense Minister Prince Sultan worth SR200 million.

Roschel's meeting with the King was attended by Crown Prince Fahd and Prince Sultan.

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From Page One

and the Arab Bank were converted to Saudi Arabian majority shares holding companies under the names of Saudi Cairo Bank and the Arab National Bank.

The number of Saudized foreign banks rose to six. The other four banks are: Jazira Bank, Al-Bank Al-Saudi Al-Hollandi, Al-Bank Al-Saudi Al-Faransi and the Saudi British Bank.

A royal decree was issued for the Saudization of the dibank under the name of the Saudi American Bank. In addition to the two original Saudi Arabian banks, the National Commercial Bank and Riyadh Bank, the number of Saudi Arabian banks rose to nine.

As a result of Saudization, branches of banks increased to 140 in May, 1979. Thirty branches were opened in 1978-79, compared to 17 in 1977-78. There are 13 seasonal banks which operate during the pilgrimage season, excluded.

Imports increased 28 per cent during the past year to SR91.6 billion against SR71.3 billion in the previous year. Non-oil private sector imports amounted to SR72.4 billion to form nearly four fifths of the total imports because of the rising rates of government purchases throughout the private sector. Because of rising import payments, payment transfers also increased with the resulting in a payment deficit last year in the current accounts after a ten-year uninterrupted payment surplus.

In communications, the ministry completed 4,096 kilometers of asphalt roads, 6,812 kilometers of rural roads rising to 20,134 kilometers and 20,119 kilometers respectively. One of the principal achievements of the past two years was the Taif-Abha-Jizan road which is 753 kilometers long.

Ports were also expanded and improved. Jeddah has 31 docks, 38 in Dammam and the total in the country should rise soon to 114 which will raise annual capacity to 20.7 million tons.

Telephone lines rose to 205,000 at the end of last year and will rise to 391,300 by the end of this year. Direct international dialing should be completed by the end of this year. Four hundred and seventy thousand automatic lines will be installed in 72 cities by the end of next year while 11 earth satellite stations will be completed for intercity communications. Telex services, already available in 19 cities through 6,350 machines, will rise to 9,000 while postal services have improved considerably during the same period.

The government is concentrating on the development of the industrial base with the object of increased contribution to national income. It encourages private capital investment, takes the initiative in setting up industries which require big investments and sophisticated technology and require a long time for preparation, implementation and the realization of revenues. The government encourages the private sector through various incentives, direct and indirect subsidies. It exempts customs duties on the import of tools, equipment, spare parts and raw materials and gives customs protection against competitive imports. The incentives also cover the grant of interest-free loans, allocation of lands on nominal rentals for the setting up of factories. It gives preference to local products in government purchases, assistance to investors in getting to know the profitable projects through market research and feasibility studies. A new regulation was

issued in February 1979, allowing investment in development projects, with the exception of prospecting for minerals. It offers foreign expertise all the privileges available to local industries and exempts the companies from income tax for 10 years if they invest in agro-industrial projects, and five years for other projects provided that the participation of foreign capital is not less than 25 per cent in every case.

By the end of 1978, there were 1,035 licensed industrial installations with an overall authorized capital of SR16,780 million, of which SR11,332 million was in accordance with the regulation for the protection and encouragement of native industries and SR5,448 million in accordance with the regulation for foreign capital investments.

In regard to intermediary factories, the cement factory has achieved considerable progress. The three factories at Jeddah, Riyadh and Dammam produced 1.8 million tons in 1978, an increase of 38.5 per cent and 60 per cent over the production of 1977 and 1976 respectively. These factories have been expanded to increase their capacity.

Work is in progress for the establishment of new factories in Yanbu, Qassim, and Jizan, and two other cement projects are also being implemented in the Eastern Province. One of these is a Saudi-Kuwaiti joint venture while the other is a Saudi-Bahraini venture. Upon the completion of these projects, the expected production of cement in the Kingdom will exceed 10 million tons annually, covering total local consumption and keeping a surplus for export.

The production of fertilizers rose to 260,023 metric tons of urea, 13,272 metric tons of sulfuric acid during 1978, as against 221,474 metric tons and 9,740 metric tons respectively in the year preceding.

Other fertilizer projects are planned in cooperation with the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) and international companies.

A considerable progress has been achieved in the development of infrastructure in Jubail and Yanbu which have selected for giant industrial complexes based on the exploitation of hydrocarbon materials and minerals. SABIC has been charged of setting up, managing and marketing of the products of those industries. It has taken practical steps towards this end in cooperation with foreign collaborators in the field of petrochemicals, fertilizers, iron and steel and aluminium. Final treaties are being ratified to begin implementation so that most of these industries enter into the stage of commercial operation by the end of the third development plan.

The first stage of the assembly and treatment of gas is expected to be completed in the early 1980s.

This project will produce nearly three billion cubic ft. of liquid gas daily. In addition to the supplying of fuel for industry, power companies and desalination plants. The project will produce ethane to be used in the petrochemical industrial complexes in Jubail and Yanbu, in addition to propane and natural benzene for export. Work on the laying of pipelines from the Eastern Province to Yanbu seaport has already begun for the transportation of crude oil and liquid gas.

Student enrollment in various educational institutes increased 11 per cent in the

academic year 1978-79 to 1.35 million. About 1.21 million enrolled in schools in last year.

The government plans to extend educational services to all parts of the Kingdom for all children of school age, and literacy schools for adults.

The responsibility for expanding improving health services throughout the Kingdom lies with the Ministry of Health. Other ministers and government departments also provide health services to their employees and the public including Ministry of Education, Ministry of Defense and Aviation and the National Guard.

The government grants the private sector loans without interest to build hospitals and clinics.

The Ministry of Health opened three hospitals and 51 clinics and health centers in 1978.

Work has almost been completed on five hospitals in Jeddah, Medina, Hofuf, Jizan and Al-Khobar. They include 2,275 beds and are expected to start operation soon.

Three other hospitals in Hail, Najran and Tabuk are under construction. They will be completed in 1981. The ministry is also considering establishing 170 clinics across the Kingdom.

The government is working on the scarcity of water in agricultural development. Surveys are carried out to locate sources of subterranean water and dams are being built to preserve storm water.

Six of the Kingdom's regions have been surveyed completely, and studies are underway for other regions. During the period of the second five year plan, 20 dams were built in various areas of the country. Thirteen other dams are under construction. The irrigation network of Jizan, which is linked to the dam of Wadi Jizan, is expected to be completed in 1980.

To ensure the availability of basic food stuffs grain silos and storehouses are being built in various parts of the Kingdom. Four stores with a capacity of 20,000 tons each were built in Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam and Yanbu.

Similar stores are planned in other parts of the country.

Grain silos in Riyadh and Dammam began full capacity operation. The grain silos project of Qasim has been completed with less capacity than those of Riyadh and Dammam, and will be used for storing local wheat production.

A similar project is planned for Khams Mushait. The private sector has been investing in storing, transporting and distributing commodities which helped availability in all parts of the country.

Commercial policies and rules are being reviewed. They include the rights of agents, commercial registration procedures to break monopolization and increase healthy internal competition.

Power production during 1978 rose to 9,435 million megawatts per hour, an increase of 35 per cent. The electricity companies are implementing expansion programs, financed by interest-free government loans. The state-owned Electricity General Company is implementing a number of projects to supply power to rural and remote areas of the Kingdom. A unified electricity company was set up in the Eastern Province, followed by another in the Central Province. The electricity companies of Riyadh, Qassim and other projects of the General Electricity Company are to be incorporated in these companies. A government order was also issued to set up a similar company in the Southern Province.

The housing crisis has largely been overcome as a result of huge investments by the private sector with much of the financing through medium and long-term loans from the Real Estate Fund. The government, undertakes crash housing programs which are implemented in a longer period providing all the necessary facilities including schools, markets and other auxiliary services.

Jeddah's crash housing program of 1,930 apartments has been completed. A similar program of 1,664 residential blocks in Dammam is about to be completed, and work on the 1,440 apartment project in Riyadh has already begun. The general long-term hous-

ing contracts have been signed for the construction of 6,548 flats, 2,983 villas in Riyadh, 3,420 villas in Jeddah and there are plans to build 2,000 residential blocks in Mecca, Medina and Buraidah.

There is an increasing concern for the development and expansion of public facilities and rural services, including the supply of drinking water, sewage networks, telephones, electricity, illumination of streets, construction of roads and pavements, flyovers, markets and modern slaughterhouses.

The main towns have witnessed considerable improvement in the supply of drinking water after the drilling of wells and implementation of desalination of projects. During the first four years of the second development plan, 280 drinking water projects were implemented in a number of towns, 450 wells were sunk and water networks were expanded in Riyadh and Jeddah, while a new project was begun to supply Taif and Hada with 50 million gallons of water daily.

The expansion of Medina water project is expected to be completed soon. At there eight desalination plants on the Kingdom's eastern and western coasts and work is in progress to expand the existing plants and also to set up new ones. Most important of these is the Jubail plant which is being implemented in two stages with an overall capacity of 235 million gallons per day and 1,150 megawatts of electricity.

Among other important plants now under implementation are the ones in Medina and Yanbu. Their productive capacity in the first stage will be 25 million gallons daily and 50 megawatts of electricity. This stage is expected to go into production early next year.

The overall production from the desalination plants in the Kingdom by the beginning of 1982 will be nearly 412 million gallons of water and 2,730 megawatts of electricity daily.

From the foregoing statement, it is evident that the Saudi economy has achieved considerable and balanced progress in all the spheres and is going ahead with development in full confidence after overcoming inflation and bottlenecks.

After founding the economic base and making the preliminary requirements available the government is now concentrating on expanding the productive and agricultural bases by encouraging private or public capital. There is continuous work for the improvement of educational, health, social, municipal and other public services. The aim in each case is to form social capital by developing native resources, raising the living standard and providing means of comfort for the present generation and future ones. This is the final aim of all the policies.



MEETING: Sheikh Muhammad Said Tayeb (center) and Taha Dhalaini have lunch with young sales hopefuls at Tihama and several University economic instructors prepare the young men for a business career.

University offers expertise

Tihama starts training course

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 24 — The first preparatory session for the sales representatives has begun at the King Abdul Aziz University here.

The session, which will last three months, has been organized by the Tihama Training Center in cooperation with the Center of Research and Development at the university.

On this occasion, Tihama Establishment held a function to introduce teachers with their trainees. It was attended by Dr. Ghazi Madani, dean of the Faculty of Economy and Administration; Dr. Ahmed Al-Sabab, director of the Center of Research and Development; Dr. Ali Rifa'ah Al-Ansari; Dr. Ahmed Al-Tawati, head of the Department of Administration; Prof. Munir Hassan Ali, academic director of Tihama Training Center; Sheikh Muhammad Said Tayib, director general of Tihama, Taha Dhalaini, assistant director general and other senior officials of the establishment.

Welcoming the students, Sheikh Muhammad said, "We place Tihama's potentials

at your disposal to make this program a success. I am sure you will find full cooperation from the establishment's personnel."

The aim of the program, he said, is to prepare the Saudi youth for this profession which is connected with the development plan. Besides, it was a profession that could guarantee a bright future if the Saudi Arabian young men showed keenness to avail of this opportunity, he added.

Dr. Ghazi Madani stressed the training's inter-connection with the process of education and commended Tihama for its initiative in this field.

Meanwhile, Fouad Abu Al-Khair, the center's supervisor, said that the program will consist of a number of lectures by the professors of economy and administration at the university, besides an independent program for the teaching of English.

The graduates of this course will be appointed to Tihama's marketing departments, and the meritorious graduates will be sent to the United States and Britain to join an intensive training course in English.

WEATHER

The Kingdom will be affected by the unsettled hot air bloc. The weather will be warm and cloud will thicken in most areas, bringing possible thunderstorms.

Winds will be south-easterly to south-westerly, and light to moderate. They will cause occasional sand haze.

Seas will be calm to moderate.

Monday's temperatures (maximum, minimum in centigrade)

Mecca	38	25
Jeddah	35	25
Riyadh	35	20
Dhahran	33	17
Medina	37	21
Taif	29	15
Jizao	37	27
Hail	33	12
Turaif	25	13
Qaisumah	33	17
Sulayyil	33	17
Abha	23	10

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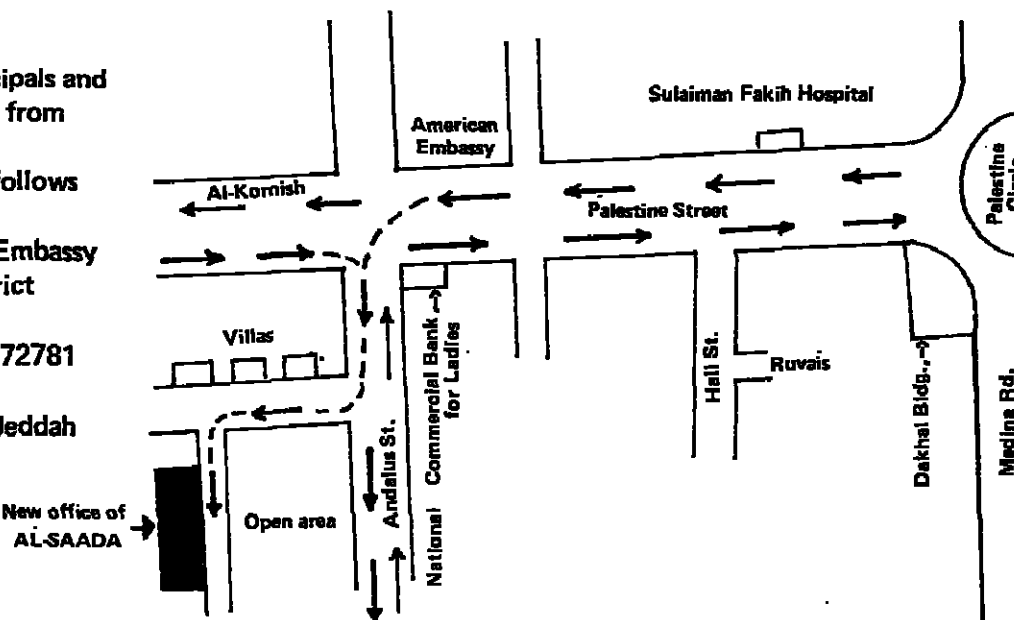
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Princess dedicates women's bank

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 23 — Princess Mishael bint Faisal, daughter of the late King Faisal, officially inaugurated the National Commercial bank women's branch Monday night, according to bank officials.

About 200 people attended the official ceremony. The occasion included an introduction of bank employees as well as explanations of the banking operations and services.

Bank representatives said the event and explanations of services were oriented more toward the Saudi women, but they encourage foreign women to attend the ceremony also. The banking personnel have notified embassies throughout the area to let foreign women know about the bank's services.

However, despite the rush to open up women's branches in Jeddah, there hasn't been a rush to the tellers. NCB employees said, "Business is building up," said Mrs. Lou Jerusalem, the assistant operations officer. "It is different in this country, we have to get the trust of the people, however we have had many women come in and inquire about our services," she added. Mrs. Jerusalem said the bank branch is trying to involve the Western community in the bank enterprise as well Saudi women.

As an incentive and appeal to prospective customers, the bank's operations officer, Rada Khan said the bank is offering time deposits and foreign currency checking.

The NCB women's branch opening follows in the footsteps of the Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce official opening by Princess Hissah bint Khaled on Saturday.

The branch, on Prince Fahd Street, is the second of its kind for the Al-Rajhi firm. Earlier it established a branch in Riyadh.

Pakistan commemorated

JEDDAH, March 24 — The Ambassador of Pakistan Najmul Saqib Khan said Pakistan, which was created in the name of Islam is now marching forward toward attaining the goal of an Islamic society.

Khan was addressing members of the embassy on the occasion of Pakistan's Day which was also marked by a party given at the Meridian Hotel.

On this day 1940 the idea of an independent country for the Muslims of Pakistan was first decided.



HONORED: Sheikh Ruhu, publisher and editor-in-chief of the Tunisian daily newspaper *Al-Sahab* was guest of honor Sunday at a luncheon given by the publishers of *Arab News*, *Ash Sharq Al Awwal* and *Saudi Business* Hisham and Muhammad Ali Hafiz. Ruhu is seen wearing a dark suit and flanked by the publishers and their father Sheikh Ali Hafiz. About 100 guests representing the publications of the Saudi Research and Marketing Company Thama advertising and public relations company, the Ministry of Information and others attended the party. Ruhu is on a private visit to the Kingdom.

BRIEFS

JEDDAH, March 24 (SPA) — The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Thunayan received copies of the letters of credence of the new Brazilian and Uruguayan ambassadors prior to submitting them to King Khaled.

JEDDAH, March 24 (SPA) — Deputy Governor of Mecca Prince Saud bin Abdul Mohsen chaired a meeting of the committee to control trespassing on government properties in the region. Prince Saud said while the authorities should be firm in dealing with trespassing they should give priority to landless citizens in the distribution of government land.

RIYADH, March 24 (SPA) — A seminar on industrial safety was held at the Intercontinental Hotel here. It was addressed by Dr. Ibrahim Al Awaji, deputy minister of interior, Prince Abdullah bin Faisal bin Turki, deputy general manager of technical affairs at the Royal Commission of Jubail and Yanbu and Major Rashad Saqr, the commission's secretary for industrial security.

DAMMAM, March 24 (SPA) — The medical committee formed to study the disease of lymphoma has recommended better diagnosis and treatment and constant reports to the Health Ministry by doctors engaged in its treatment. The committee, which completed its deliberations at King Faisal's Medical College here, suggested forming committees to acquaint doctors with the nature of the disease and ways of diagnosing and treating it. Nearly 200 doctors from Saudi Arabia, the Gulf, Sudan, Britain and Switzerland took part in the seminar.

JEDDAH, March 24 (SPA) — An agreement was signed at the Islamic Development Bank here Monday by which the bank will finance two commercial deals for Guinea amounting to \$17 million. They were signed by Dr. Ahmad Minal, acting President of the bank in the absence of Dr. Ahmad Ali who is visiting the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus. Dr. Ali held a meeting with Rauf Denktaş about the bank's aid to the country.

Kingdom takes first place in horse races

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 24 — Saudi Arabia won the championship of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula horse race with 17 points. Qatar placed second with seven points.

King Khaled handed the cup to winner, Prince Mansour bin Saud the head of the Saudi Arabian team in the race.

The horse named Warda, from Qatar, Jazi, Indisar and Hissam from Saudi Arabia won the first places in the four parts of the race.

The first part was for beginner horses, 1,000 meters and its prize was SR24,000. The competition was restricted between Memdoh and Sheikhah, from Saudi Arabia, and Warda from Qatar. However, Warda came in first place, followed by Sheikhah and then Memdoh in the third place.

Qatar won three points for the first position, and Saudi Arabia also three for the second and third places.

The second part was for third class horses, 1,200 meters on a prize of SR28,000. Jazi and Naqia, from Saudi Arabia, Fatihah Kheir, from Kuwait and Assaliyya from Bahrain fought the race.

Jazi came first, Naqia second and Assaliyya third giving Saudi Arabia further five points and one for Qatar.

Competition for the SR32,000 prize for second class horses, 1,600 meters, was restricted between Sabban, from Saudi Arabia, Hamid, from Qatar, Indisar, from Saudi Arabia and Mustaqbal from Kuwait. Indisar won the first place and was followed by Hamid and Sabban.

Four points were given to Saudi Arabia and two to Qatar. By then, it was certain that the cup will go to the Kingdom for it has 12 points. Qatar had six.

The fourth and last part for first class horses was for 2,000 meters and SR36,000.

The competition was at first restricted between Hissam of Saudi Arabia and Gadban; from Qatar. The two horses were joined by Najd, from Saudi Arabia and Lamh Al-Bassar, from Kuwait. However, Hissam ended the course in his favor and was followed by Najd and Gadban in the third place.

The Kingdom's total rose to 17, ten points over Qatar that won the second place.

The prize is divided among the four first winners in each part. Fifty per cent goes to the first, 25 to the second, 15 to the third and ten per cent to the fourth.

The forthcoming championship will be held at the same next year in Kuwait, Prince Bandar bin Fahd bin Saad the deputy chairman of the Saudi Arabian race and arbitration committee, said Monday.

Saudi Comment

By Fawzia Al-Oraifi
Al Jazirah

The literacy schools now functioning under the supervision of the Directorate of Women's Education are in need of urgent attention from officials in order to be able to produce desirable results.

In this connection, I would like to point out that literacy courses include a number of subjects, almost equal to those taught at the primary stages. This, in my view, is wrong as the students are grown-up women and, consequently, the level of their grasping is far weaker than the young ones.

The directorate would do much better to restrict the courses to reading, writing and elementary mathematics, as this will help a lot of illiterate women to successfully dispel the clouds of ignorance and to illuminate their minds and hearts with the radiance of knowledge. Many a student has lagged behind as a result of "complications and stuffing" of subjects.

tions and stuffing" of subjects.

Furthermore, while we are educating the illiterates we can largely benefit from those who have rich experience, power of tolerance, long patience and have complete regard for them as mothers, beside being students.

Another point I'd like to stress is that the age plays a significant part in the process of teaching the illiterates. A little dig into the matter will bring the directorate face to face with such remarks as: "they (the teachers) are younger than our daughters, but impose conditions upon us. Certainly this is the last age that we live in."

Such remarks explain the extent of their resentment and unwillingness to accept young girls as their teachers. They are not at all convinced that they must submit to the orders of the young ones. In the life of every individual there are invariably sweet and bitter aspects; sweet if there is pleasantness and bitter without it.

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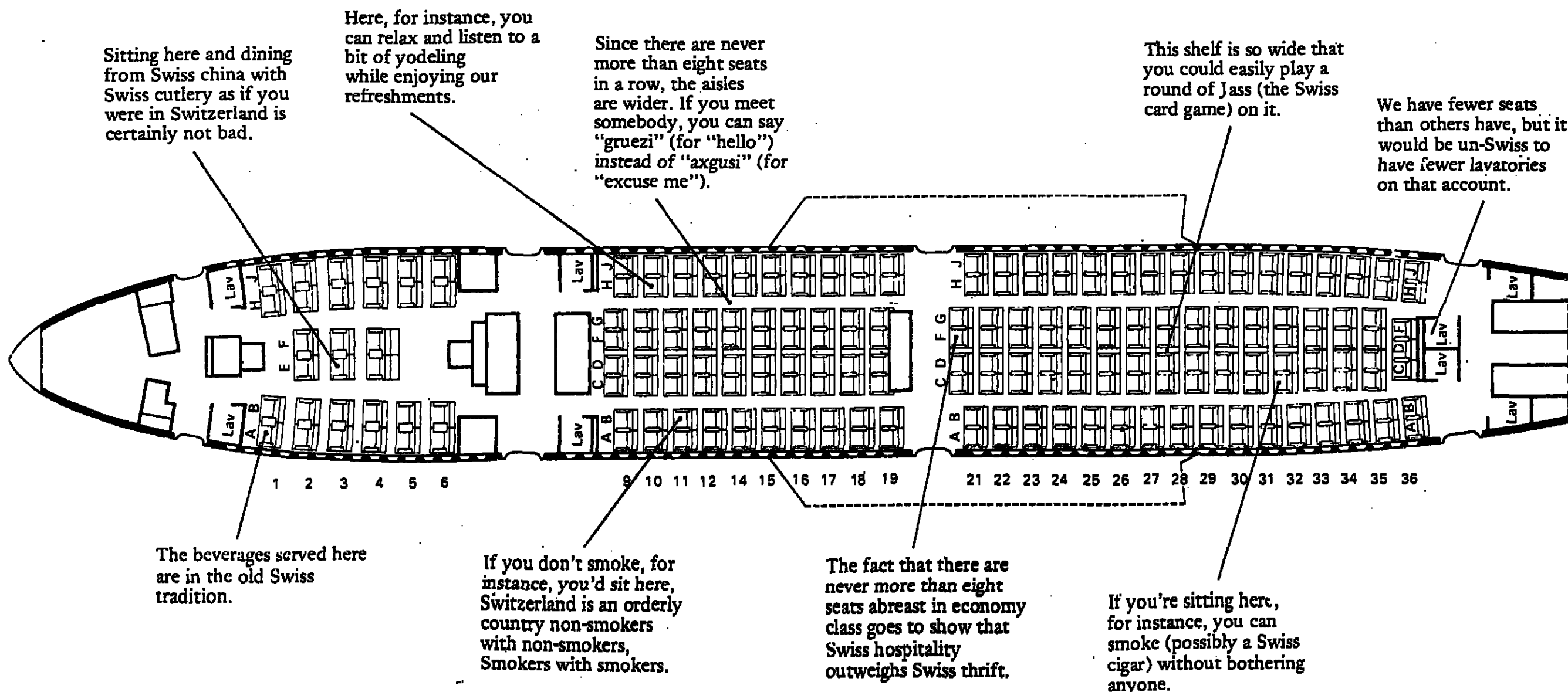
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Gulf countries seeking U.S. initiative on Israel

By Hugh Mooney

ABU DHABI, March 24 (OFNS) — Arab Gulf states see no immediate Soviet threat to their installations or export routes and will refuse to provide bases for American forces — if they are sought.

A confidant of the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahyan, president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said: "There will be no bases for the West. Bases are the start of confrontation between the West and Soviet Union. Confrontation leads to escalation of threat. American bases will be followed by Russian bases."

"Facilities are a grey area. No one knows quite what that means. For the rulers, a political decision is necessary, and it goes against the grain to make such a decision in advance of an obvious military threat."

The UAE was formed in 1971, and numbers seven states, of which Abu Dhabi is by far the largest and richest. The Emirates have a 300-mile coastline on the Gulf to Oman on the Musandam Peninsula. This juts out into the narrows, known as the Straits of Hormuz, through which a tanker passes every 20 minutes.

"If there is a frontal attack by Soviet forces on the area, then it goes without saying that facilities will be made available," he added.

Meanwhile, the Americans have reinforced their naval units in the Gulf, Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Compared to the Americans' 20 ships in and around the Gulf, the Russians have about 30 ships in the area, of which 14 are warships.

Seen from here, the Americans are over-reacting and in the wrong way. The

threat to the region is political and not capable of solution by carrier-led task forces.

The Arabs are also puzzled as to why the Americans are taking the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan so seriously, when Soviet policy has been clear for years. The Arabs do not see events in Afghanistan affecting them in the near future and they have little interest in the country. As one religious leader here said: "Kabul will never be more important than Jerusalem."

Iran is a different matter. While the deposed Shah was never popular in the Gulf, the turmoil in Iran does worry the Gulf states, who fear a lurch to the left in Iran and the eventual takeover of a pro-Soviet government, which would be an awkward neighbor.

But the threat from a pro-Soviet Iran is not immediate, and the Arab Gulf states do not think that what happened in Iran is likely to happen in their countries, because the social and political structure is so different.

The Gulf states are against the Camp David agreement and foresee that by May, it will be seen to be merely an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. In May, there will be a need to take a new initiative. The only country that can do so is the United States, because it is the only country that the Israelis will listen to.

Many Arabs are hoping that the Americans will swing behind France and other European states and back more strongly 'the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

If the Americans could give something to the Arabs over Palestine, then the Gulf rulers feel that they may be able to give something to the Americans to counter the Soviet threat.

Assad agrees to treaty with Soviets, says Kuwaiti paper

KUWAIT, March 24 (R) — Syrian President Hafez Assad has agreed in principle to sign a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union, the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Wakeel* said Monday.

Al-Wakeel quoted diplomatic sources in Damascus as saying the Soviet Union had been putting pressure on Assad to sign a treaty and the issue had been discussed during Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's recent visit to Syria.

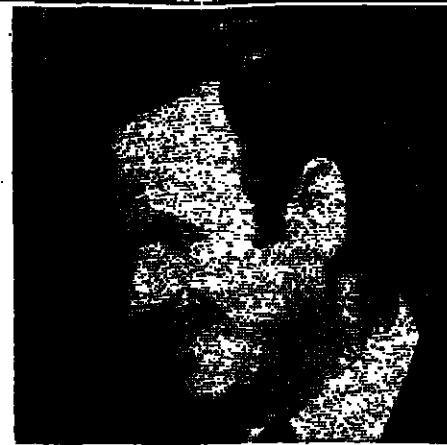
Assad asked then for a decision on the treaty to be delayed but "he has now abandoned his reservations and agreed in principle to sign a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union," the paper said.

Syria buys most of its arms from the Soviet Union, which is also helping to build a huge dam across the Euphrates River in northern Syria. But Damascus has always resisted a formal treaty with Moscow.

Al-Wakeel claimed that Assad was seriously thinking of another complete government reshuffle which would bring in more Communists as ministers.

Assad swore in a new 37-member cabinet in January. Almost half the new team was made up of young technocrats chosen to implement long-promised internal reforms and two posts went to Communist Party members.

In Damascus, meanwhile, Assad said Sun-



President Assad said that Arab steadfastness against Israel would go if his country collapsed.

He was addressing an emergency conference of the sports federation which decided to enlist armed detachments to defend the country against "American imperialism, Zionism and reaction."

Similar detachments have been formed over the past few weeks after emergency conferences by peasants, teachers and students and at which Assad attacked the United States and the Muslim Brotherhood group which Syria blames for a recent wave of violence.

Assad said Syria was the frontline of confrontation against the United States and Israel.

"Syria is offering sacrifices in defense of its progressive and honorable stances. If Syria collapses, all Arab steadfastness will collapse," he said.

Assad charged that "the United States, Israel and their agents were trying to embarrass Syria and its friends so that it might fall under American hegemony after the fall of Anwar Sadat of Egypt."

On Turkish Cypriots

Denktash hits Muslim states' stand

NICOSIA, March 24 (R) — Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash Monday accused the world's Muslim countries of adopting double standards in their attitudes toward his community's problems with the Greek-Cypriots.

Opening the Eighth World Muslim Congress at Famagusta, he told delegates from 49 countries that it was wrong for their governments to support resolutions which opposed his community.

"Is it too much to ask of Islamic countries to get their priorities right when it comes to meeting or talking on an issue which affects an Islamic country or Muslim community?" he asked.

Denktash said the Muslim communities came out in support of the Turkish-Cypriots at conferences such as the one he was opening, but in other international events they did the opposite because it suited their policies as nonaligned countries.

"If this approach is condoned, then Islamic solidarity will be just an empty expression of distant hope," he said.

The Secretary General of the World Muslim Congress, Inamullah Khan, told the congress: "Let us repeat that if peaceful but just settlement was not acceptable to the Greek community of Cyprus, the Turkish Kibris (Cyprus) may be left with no alternative but

with the UDI (Unilateral Declaration of Independence)."

He told more than 100 delegates from nearly 50 Muslim countries and organizations that although most of them had become politically free, whether they were free from the clutches of the superpowers was another question.

"The restitution of the sovereign rights of the people of Palestine is still awaited. The same is true in the case of the people of Kashmir, Eritrea, the matter of Filipino Muslims or that of Turkish Cyprus etc. Despite the United Nations' overwhelming resolution for the restoration of the status-quo of Jerusalem, it is still under Jewish forceful occupation," he said.

Congress President Marouf Diwalibi accused President Jimmy Carter of depriving the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination and said this was "inexplicable favoritism of Israel's wishes." He added that this was being done only to "win over the Jewish electoral card."

He said the Palestinian cause had had enough betrayal of justice thanks to the Jewish lobby, the Congress and the American press.

Ceasefire fails

Fighting continues in Chad

PARIS, March 24 (Agencies) — Fighting between rival factions raged for the third straight day Monday in the capital of the central African nation of Chad despite a ceasefire agreement reached Sunday, according to reports reaching Paris.

It was not known why the ceasefire agreed to between the forces of President Goukouni Oueddei and Prime Minister Hissene Habre failed to take effect, but the French news agency Agence France Presse reported the battle in N'Djamena was continuing.

The shooting was not as intense as it had been the previous two days, but the agency said that could be because both sides, estimated at about 1,000 to 1,500 men, were running short of ammunition.

However, AFP said observers in the capital were worried about an escalation of the fighting because of reports that reinforcements for both sides were heading toward the city.

Further complicating the situation and increasing the danger were reports that the forces of Col. Wadal Abdelkader Kamoogoe,

Chad's vice president and leader of the Christian and animist population in the southern part of the country, also were on the move and possibly could line up with the president.

Reports said life in the city has nearly come to a standstill. Public water supplies were completely cut Monday and electricity was operating only in a few sections. Traffic was not moving.

The U.S. State Department announced over the weekend it had ordered all American embassy personnel evacuated from Chad because of the latest outbreak of fighting. AFP reported that about half of the European 700 to 800 members of the European population of N'Djamena, mostly French, had been moved to the French military base near the airport. The airport itself remained closed.

Meanwhile, French officials said here that the French government is considering repatriating its nationals from N'Djamena because of the fighting.

White House party marks Egypt-Israel peace treaty

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP) — U.S. President Jimmy Carter celebrated the first anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty signing Sunday — three days early but only two days before the New York presidential primary.

A senior Carter aide, who asked not to be named, said the party was timed to stress the president's successes in the Middle East while the administration tries to downplay its embarrassing and ostensibly mistaken vote against Israel on a United Nations resolution three weeks ago.

The vote on a resolution concerning Israeli settlements on the occupied West Bank and the status of Jerusalem could damage Carter's hopes for a big win Tuesday in New York, where a third of the Democratic voters are Jewish.

Foreign assistance must be without strings, Zia declares

ISLAMABAD, March 24 (AP) — President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq said Monday Pakistan will be glad to accept foreign economic assistance provided it is without strings.

Earlier Zia had rejected a \$400 million U.S. military and economic aid package, aimed at helping Pakistan improve its defense and economy following the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

"Pakistan will be glad, rather grateful, to accept economic aid from any country, provided it is without any strings attached to it," he said.

Zia said that after economic aid is given to Pakistan, the donor country should not interfere in Pakistan's internal affairs.

Asked whether Islamabad was in touch with Moscow and Kabul regarding the situation in Afghanistan, Zia said, "In politics and diplomacy, one should always keep the door for negotiations open. A last word is never said in such matters."

"While Pakistan is keeping its door open for negotiations on the Afghan situation, the government is taking all the steps considered vital to protect the security of Pakistan."

The Pakistan government announced March 5 that it had rejected the \$400 million U.S. aid package because it was burdened with "onerous terms" and was too small to ensure Pakistan's security in the wake of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

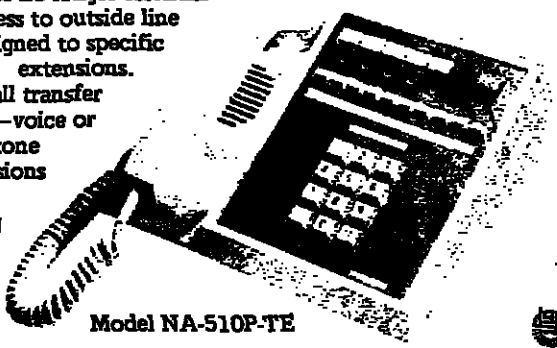
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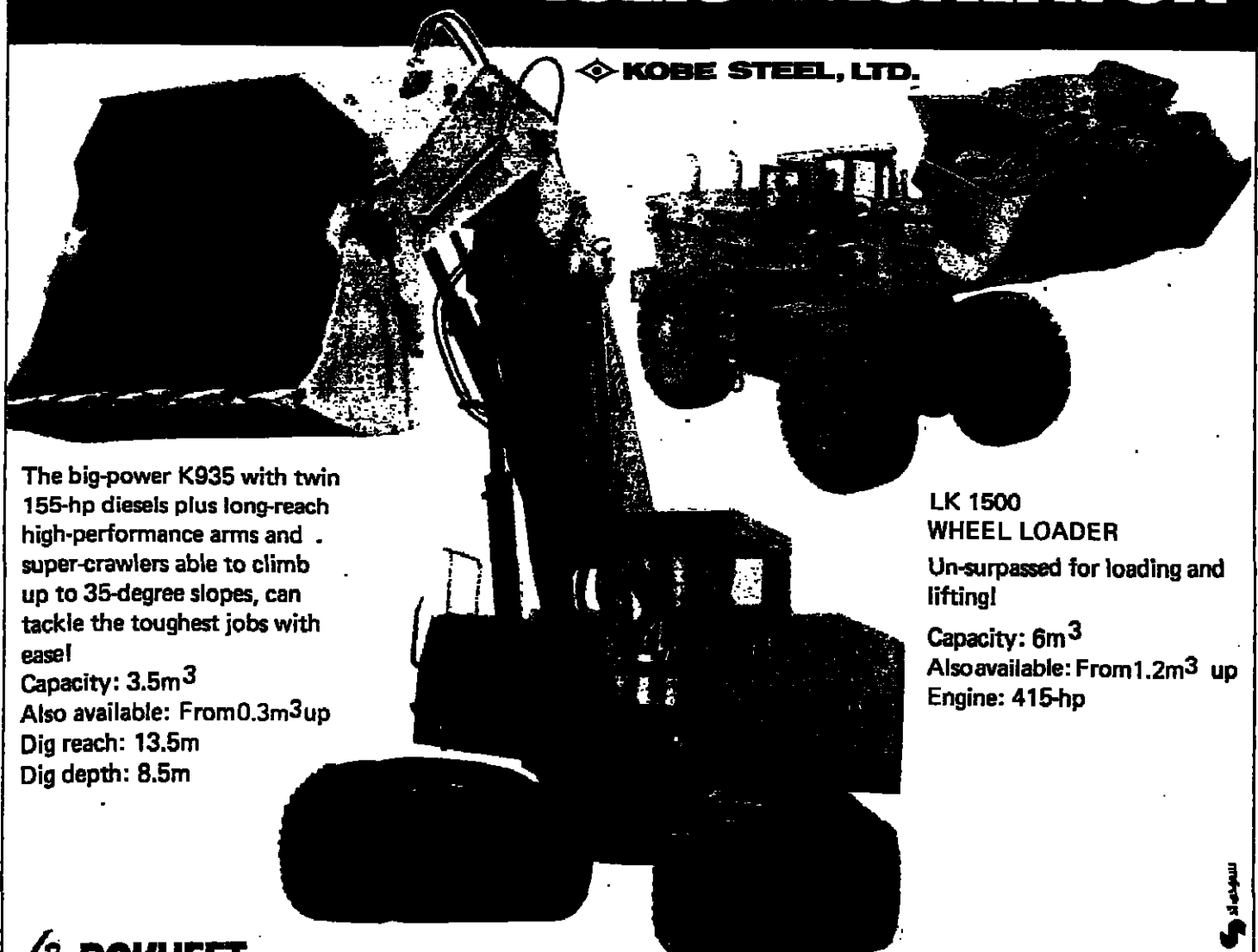
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مكتبة الأمل

Boycott counterproposal gives athletes optimism

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP) — Members of the Athletics Advisory Council of the U.S. Olympic Committee remained optimistic Sunday that they could persuade President Jimmy Carter to accept their counterproposal which would permit them to participate in the summer games in Moscow while simultaneously protesting the Soviet military presence in Afghanistan.

Anita Defrantz, a power who was named spokesman of the council, said at the close of the group's three-day meeting here that "we think it is a good plan."

She said the council had not heard from anyone in the administration since presenting a copy of the plan to White House aide Bob Berenson Saturday evening but "we didn't expect anything until tomorrow or the next day."

Defrantz said, "We hope they will take a good look at it so when we come to discuss it, they will understand what we want to do."

She said no meeting has been planned but the council, an eight-year old organization which advises the USOC on viewpoints of Olympic-participating athletes, has formed a five-member committee prepared to talk with White House officials.

Carter told the athletes and their coaches at the White House Friday that the United States would not participate in the summer games in Moscow to protest the Soviet military invasion of Afghanistan last December and its continued presence in that country.

After a day-long debate Saturday, the council approved a proposal for a "visible, peaceful demonstration," calling for U.S. participation in the games during which the athletes would not take part in opening, closing or medal ceremonies, would be in the Soviet Union only for the competition and would remain in the Olympic village or training areas and would not engage in any tourist activities.

Defrantz said the athletes believe the plan would be more effective than a boycott for several reasons, including the "extraordinary opportunities to stage a peaceful demonstration on Soviet soil visible to the entire world."

Although Carter has called for a boycott of the games, the final decision on U.S. participation is to be made by the USOC, which must decide by May 24 whether or not to accept the Soviet invitation.

The committee has said it would respect the president's wishes but has not yet acted. The USOC House of Delegates, which must make the decision, next meets in Colorado Springs, Colorado, April 11-13.

The Chinese government will ask its Olympic committee to boycott the Moscow games if the Soviet Union does not withdraw unconditionally from Afghanistan, a Chinese sports official said Monday.

Li Menghua, vice minister in charge of China's State Commission for Physical Culture and Sport, described the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan as "a violation of international law and the Olympic rule itself" which says the games should serve world peace.

Li, who also is vice president of the Chinese Olympic Committee, heads an eight-man delegation visiting Australia to study sport techniques and to expand sport exchanges between the two nations.

"The Chinese Olympic Committee is in favor of support of the government's view," he said.

But he said China has not made a final decision.

He said Chinese athletes "naturally" wanted to take part in the Olympics. "I think you can understand their feelings because they have prepared themselves for four years, especially since China has been barred from the Olympic games for more than 20 years."

However, he said Chinese athletes were aware that defense of world peace concerned the interests of the people of the world.

"Therefore I have faith in our athletes that they will become in favor of, and support our views."

Olympic swimming coach Forbes Carlile expressed confidence Monday that Australian swimmers sent to Moscow can restore the prestige lost at the Montreal Olympics.

Carlile said in Melbourne after the announcement of the 20-man team that he could not have hoped for a better squad.

"We have some outstanding performers," Carlile said. "When you go to people like Tracey Wickham, Michele Ford, Mark Kerry and Mark Jonelli you are talking about some world class swimmers and a couple of them not in the best of form."

Cricket matches set

JEDDAH, March 24 — A Jeddah cricket championship is being organized for April 18 and is open to all cricket clubs in Jeddah.

The championship will hold on a single elimination basis with each inning being 10 overs of eight balls. ICC rules of cricket will be used for all the matches played at Al Hamrah grounds.

All captains or secretaries of interested clubs are asked to attend an organizational meeting on March 29 at 9:30 p.m. at Ba-Dawood Travels on King Khaled Road in front of Dar el Shifa Hospital adjacent to Abdullah Hahshim Honda dealership. The deadline for entries is April 4. The entry fee is SR150. Members of the organizing committee and their telephone numbers are Mr. Khaled, 79816; Mr. Dildar H. Khan, 52335; Mr. Shafiq Choudhry, 864175; and Mr. S.M. Hashim, 24338.

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The championship will hold on a single elimination basis with each inning being 10 overs of eight balls. ICC rules of cricket will be used for all the matches played at Al Hamrah grounds.

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Bullets near NBA playoff sixth position

NEW YORK, March 24 (AP) — Kevin Porter has the Washington Bullets on the verge of making the National Basketball Association playoffs.

Porter, who holds the NBA single-game record of 29 assists, fed off for 24 Sunday, most in the league this season, as the Bullets defeated the Detroit Pistons 119-114.

It was the Bullets' third straight triumph and left them one-half game behind the sixth-place New York Knicks, who lost to Philadelphia 112-108, and one game in back of the idle Houston Rockets in the Eastern Conference race. The top six teams make the playoffs.

Five berths are set in Western Conference and the two contenders for the last spot squared off Sunday night, with the Portland Trail Blazers downing San Diego 98-91 and taking a 1 1/2-game lead over the crippled Clippers.

Darryl Olives scored 32 points, including six slam-dunks, and grabbed 16 rebounds to lead Philadelphia. He fell short of his season high of 34 points by missing 11 of 19 free throws. The game's top scorer was New York's Ray Williams with 35 points and Toby Amight added 34.

Rookie Billy Ray Bates rescued Portland by scoring nine points in the final 3 1/2 minutes after the Blazers blew a 20-point lead in the fourth quarter. Portland was on top 82-66 with 10:20 left but former Portland State University star Freeman Williams and ex-Blazer Sidney Wicks rallied the Clippers on a 22-7 burst. Then Bates, playing in just his 12th NBA game, scored eight points in an 80-second span to put Portland on top 94-89.

Calvin Natt led the Blazers with 28. Mike Newlin led the way with 35 points as New Jersey beat Boston for the first time in six meetings this season. The Nets scored eight consecutive points early in the fourth period to open an 86-74 blitz. Gerald Henderson had 16 for the Celtics, whose lead over second-place Philly in the Atlantic Division was sliced to two games. Rookie star Larry Bird was held to eight points.

Eddie Johnson scored 26 points while San Antonio was held under 100 points for only the second time in more than 140 games. It was the Hawks' 49th triumph, a franchise record. The Spurs, who trailed by 14 points late in the third period, took a 95-94 lead with 1:38 left but John Drew ran off the final nine points.

Jamaal Wilkes scored 22 points as the Lakers came from behind. The Lakers actually clinched a tie for the division title but even if they should be caught by second-place Seattle they would win out by virtue of a 4-edge against the Sonics. The Lakers began the fourth quarter trailing 78-71 but outscored the Jazz 16-8. Michael Cooper put the Lakers ahead for good 93-92 with 3:47 remaining.

Rookie James Bailey, starting in place of the injured Lonnie Shelton, led a second-half Seattle surge with 21 of his game-high 23 points as Kansas City slipped a full game behind Midwest Division leader Milwaukee. In the third quarter, Seattle outscored Kansas City 27-10 over seven minutes to take a 76-56 advantage.

Walter Davis and Johnny High dazzled Denver with their speed and slight of hand. Davis led both teams with 27 points, including a string of seven straight late in the fourth period, while High scored 16 points, had five assists and five steals. The Suns opened a 23-point lead midway through the second quarter while holding the Nuggets to four points in the first 5 1/2 minutes of the quarter.

Artis Gilmore scored 29 points and Dwight Jones added 22 for Chicago. The Bulls scored the first six points of the fourth quarter — three apiece by Jones and Oliver Mack — to take a 100-84 lead.

Standing				
Atlantic Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Y-Boston	38	20	.657	—
Y-Phila.	36	22	.618	2
New York	38	41	.481	20 1/2
Washington	37	41	.474	21
New Jersey	33	46	.415	25 1/2

Central Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
X-Atlanta	49	29	.628	—
San Antonio	39	39	.500	10
Memphis	38	40	.487	11
Cleveland	35	43	.449	14
Indiana	35	44	.443	14 1/2
Detroit	16	63	.203	33 1/2

Midwest Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Y-Milwaukee	46	32	.590	—
Y-Kansas City	45	33	.577	1
Denver	30	49	.380	16 1/2
Chicago	28	50	.359	18
Utah	23	55	.295	23

Pacific Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
X-Los Angeles	57	22	.722	—
Y-Sacramento	52	25	.677	5 1/2
Y-Phoenix	52	26	.667	6 1/2
Portland	36	42	.462	20 1/2
San Diego	34	44	.435	22
Golden State	23	56	.291	34

X-Clinched division title
Y-Clinched playoff berth

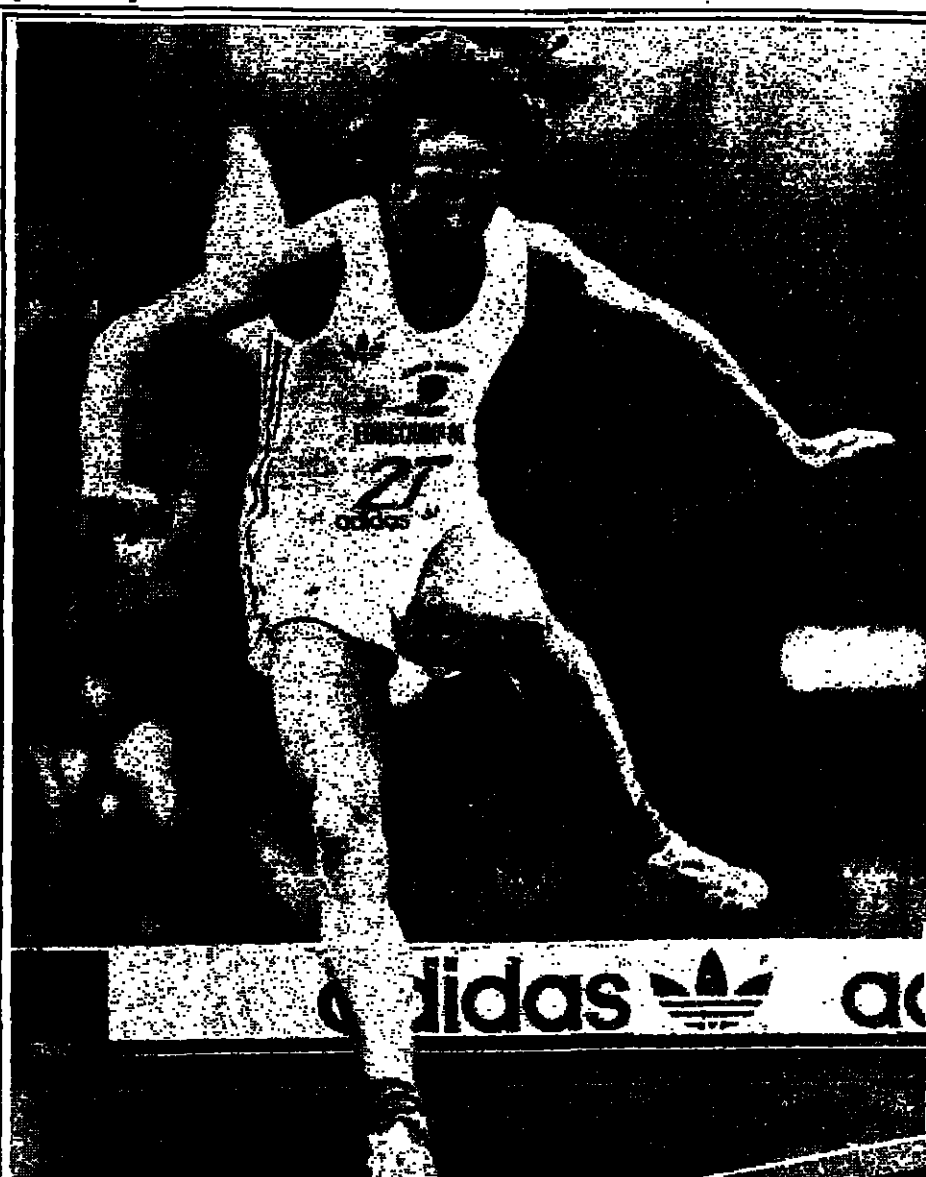
Korchnoi tightens championship grip

VELDEN, Austria, March 24 (R) — Soviet exile Viktor Korchnoi tightened his grip on the world chess championship quarter-final match against Tigran Petrosian here by drawing the eighth game after only 19 moves.

Korchnoi, 49, now leads by 4.5 points to 3.5 and only needs to draw the last two games to win through to the semi-finals. If Petrosian wins the next game — on Tuesday the match will be extended to a maximum of 14 games.

The contest ended in a draw after two hours and 22 minutes when Petrosian, playing white, verbally proposed a draw and Korchnoi accepted in writing. Korchnoi refuses to speak to the former Soviet champion.

Petrosian's second Alexei Suetin said the Soviet grand master had an early advantage but did not follow it up. It was the shortest and least exciting game so far.



CHAMPION: Nick Rose of England clears one of the barriers as he leads the field in the recent World Cross-Country Championships held near Paris. England retained its team title with a 63 point win over the second-place United States.

Rallies under pressure

Trevino wins Florida tournament

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida, March 24 (AP) — The pressure was applied immediately by two of the greatest players in the history of golf.

It was just what Lee Trevino needed.

"Jack (Nicklaus) and Gary (Player) both birdied the first hole and I'm thinking 'hey, they're coming at me in a hurry,'" Trevino said.

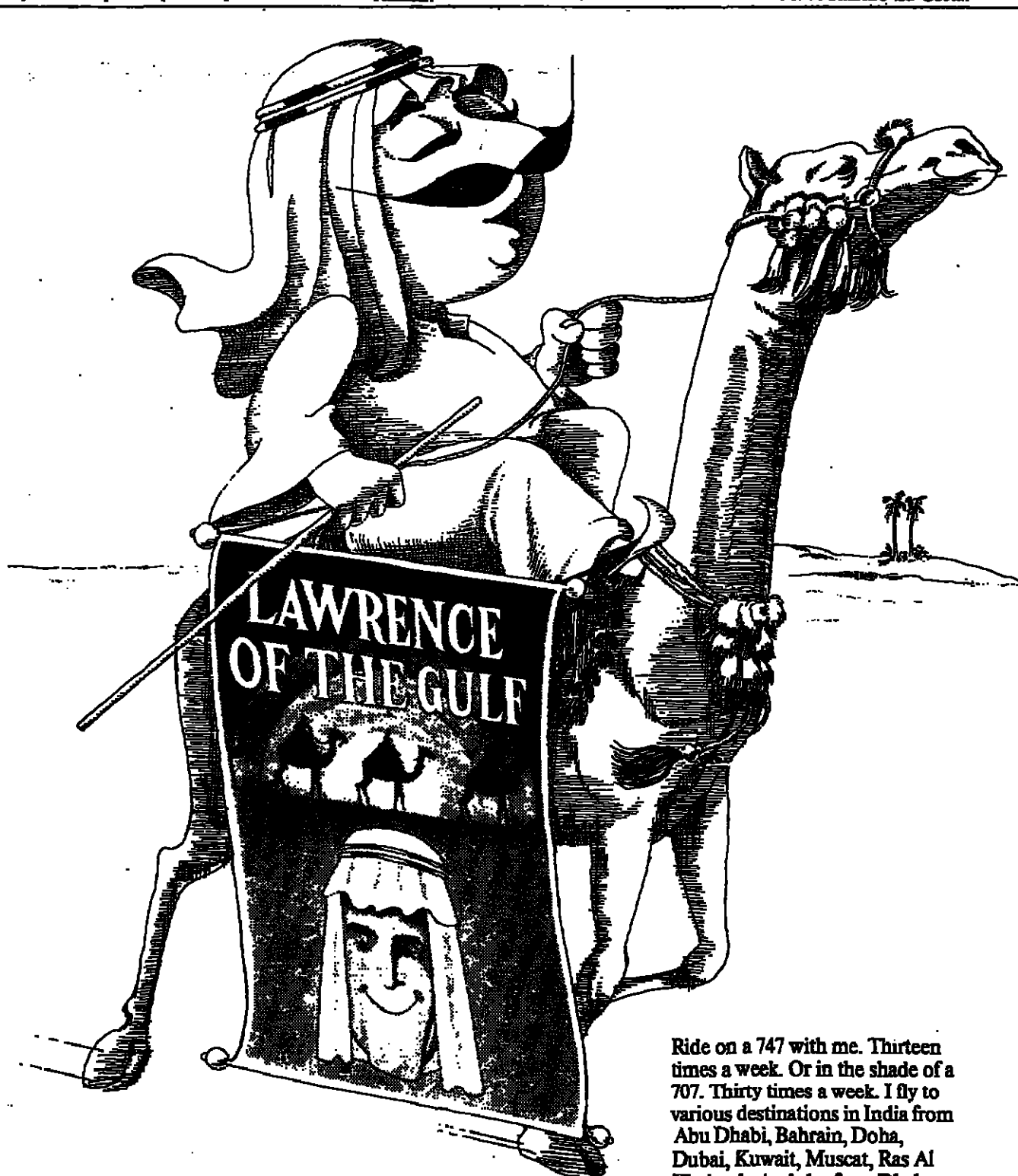
"That's what I need to play good. I like smoke. I've always liked pressure."

And, in one of the most pressure-packed tournaments in recent history — with most of the great names in the game taking a run at him at one time or another — the swaggering Trevino fired a front-running 70 that provided him with the title in the Tournament Players Championship Sunday.

At one point, Nicklaus, Player, Tom Watson, Hubert Green, Ben Crenshaw and British Open Champion Severian Ballesteros of Spain all shared second place, but on Trevino's heels.

"With great players like that all bunched up, anybody could have won," said Trevino, who played in the last group on the course with Nicklaus and Player, a Hall of Fame threesome that owns more than 200 worldwide victories.

In Las Vegas, Nevada, Donna Caponi Young fired a one-under-par on the first nine Sunday to take an early one-shot lead in the final round of the \$200,000 Desert Inn National Pro-Am Golf tournament over a threesome headed by defending champion Nancy Lopez-Nelson, Hollis Stacy and Judy Rankin.



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MERCANDIAN EXPORTER - 2	31-3-80	Ro-Ro	Marseilles/Livorno

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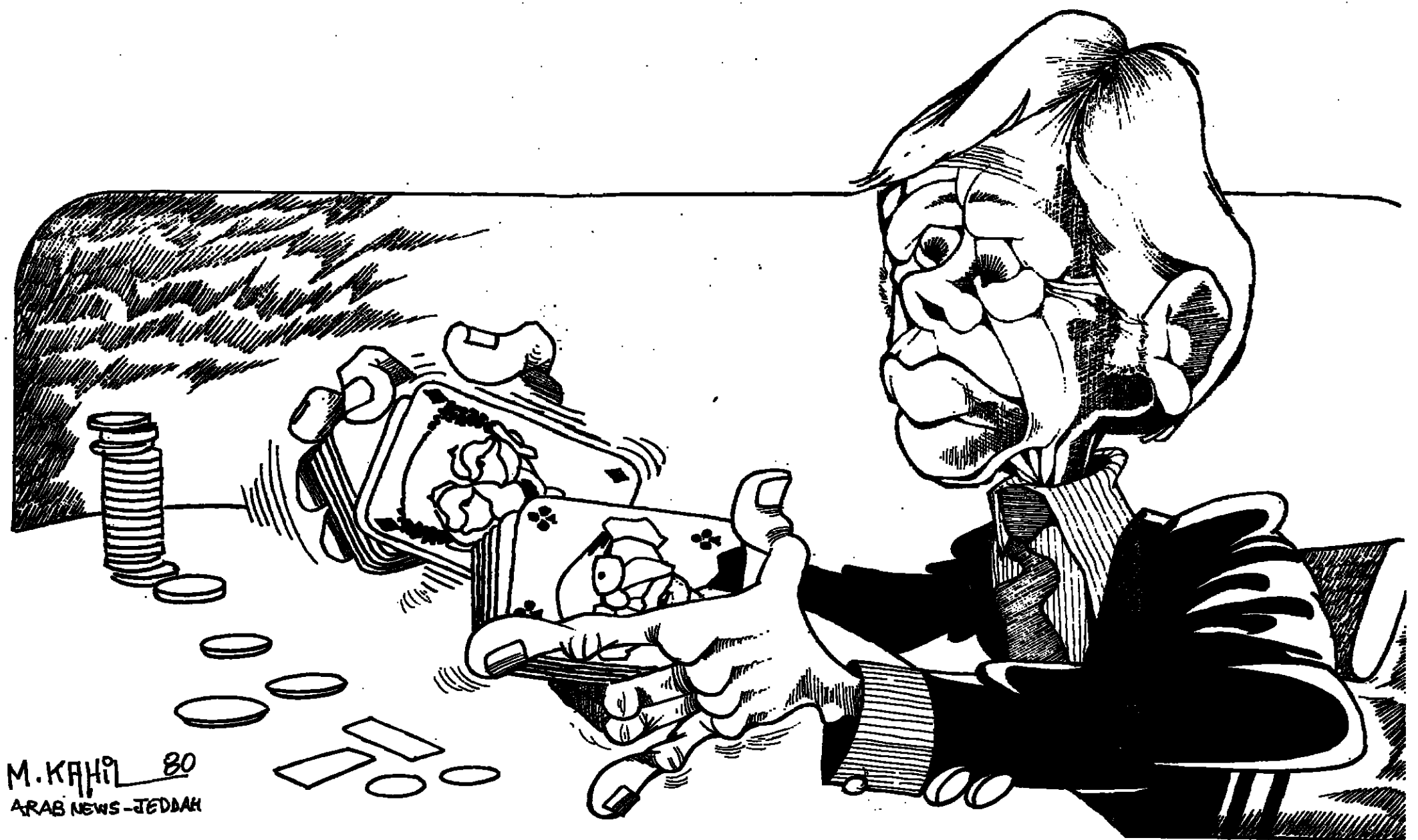
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ARAB NEWS - JEDDAH

Cyrus Vance on U.N. vote reversal

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the preliminary statement by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance presented before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee when he testified March 20 on the U.N. vote reversal.)

Mr. Chairman:

There has been a great deal of discussion about the subject of today's hearings. The events surrounding the United States' vote in the United Nations Security Council on March 1, Mr. Chairman, I know that all of us here are aware of the importance of approaching our discussions today with a view to their possible impact on our efforts for a comprehensive peace. In this regard, Ambassador Linowitz is leaving tomorrow for a round of particularly sensitive negotiations with the Egyptians and Israelis.

Over the years the United States has been forthright in stating its position on these issues. We have made clear:

- our unwavering support for Israel's security and well-being;
- our longstanding commitment to the independence and territorial integrity of all states of the Middle East, including Israel's right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries;
- our support for Security Council Resolution 242 in all its parts as the foundation of a comprehensive peace settlement;
- our belief confirmed by Egypt and Israel at Camp David that negotiations are necessary for the purpose of carrying out all the provisions and principles of Resolutions 242 and 338;
- our conviction shared by Egypt and Israel that a comprehensive peace must include a resolution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects;
- our firm position that we will not recognize or negotiate with the PLO so long as the PLO does not recognize Israel's right to exist and does not accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338;
- our unwavering commitment to the negotiating process laid out at Camp David; and
- our strong view that in the interim the parties should conduct themselves in accordance with international law and common-sense restraint so as to build trust that a sequence of successful negotiations can bring about a just, honorable and lasting peace for all.

After nearly 30 years of stalemate and strife, we finally have seen concrete progress toward peace through negotiations. President Sadat, Prime Minister Begin, and President Carter embarked on a process that has led to the Camp David framework, the Egypt-Israel peace treaty, and the present negotiations to establish full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza. At the request of the parties, the United States is a full partner in these

negotiations.

It is important to stress that the objective of all three partners is a peaceful settlement compatible with the Camp David accords and achieved through negotiation. The approach which has begun to bear fruit in the last two years is to reach accommodation on those issues that can be tackled now and then to use the progress made in the present stage to facilitate resolution of the tougher issues in later phases of negotiations. It is critical to this process that each side gain trust that a negotiated settlement on fair terms is possible.

Let me turn now to several specific issues. The present negotiations. The current negotiations provide the context for concrete discussion of individual issues. It is important to define what the current negotiations are and what they are not.

They are not, for example, designed to define the final status of the West Bank and Gaza. All issues relating to permanent institutions in these areas are to be resolved in a later negotiation where the Palestinians can participate in the determination of their own future through the process set forth in the Camp David accords. Our concern is that unilateral acts tend to prejudice the outcome of those negotiations and therefore to undercut the avenue to a peaceful and honorable resolution of these complex issues.

The current negotiations are an effort to establish a self-governing authority in the West Bank and Gaza for a transitional period while fully protecting Israel's security. In order for that effort to succeed, some important issues will have to be resolved.

The current negotiations must also define the powers and responsibilities of the self-governing authority to be exercised in the West Bank and Gaza. These arrangements should assure full autonomy for the inhabitants of these territories while providing for the legitimate security concerns of the parties involved.

There is, also, the question of how the elections will be conducted which will produce the freely-elected body called for by the Camp David framework. Those elections should assure that that body has the popular support necessary to carry out during the transitional period its responsibilities as agreed among the parties.

On the question of security, let me reaffirm the statement in the Camp David accords that "all necessary measures will be taken and provisions made to assure the security of Israel and its neighbors during the transitional period and beyond." That commitment is an integral part of the Camp David framework, and this administration intends to see that it is honored in full.

The U.N. Resolution. In February, we were faced with a draft resolution on the question of Israeli settlements which was circulated in the Security

Council.

We disagreed with a reference in the Resolution to dismantling existing settlements, and sought unsuccessfully to have it removed. As often happens in the U.N. Security Council, therefore, we stated our reservations without opposing the resolution as a whole. President Carter has stated clearly our view that this call for dismantling was neither proper nor practical.

As you know, we did succeed in removing paragraph seven of the draft, which called on Israel to assure the exercise of religious freedom in Jerusalem, thereby wrongly implying that it is not already doing so.

There was a misunderstanding, however, with regard to our position on other references to Jerusalem in the resolution. The President understood that all references to Jerusalem would be removed before we would vote for the resolutions, believing that in the present phase of the autonomy negotiations it would not be helpful to raise the issue of Jerusalem in a U.N. resolution concerning settlements. I believed that what the President wished to have removed were the reference to Jerusalem and related material contained in paragraph seven. I was mistaken and have accepted full responsibility for this misunderstanding.

As Ambassador McHenry stated in the Security Council immediately following the vote, the U.S. considers Resolution 465 as a recommendation rather than binding. With regard to the references in the Resolution to "Palestinian and other Arab lands," it is our position that this phrase should not be construed as in any way prejudicing the outcome of the autonomy negotiations or negotiations on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza.

As the President unequivocally stated on March 3, our policies with respect to settlements in occupied territory, and with respect to Jerusalem, have not changed. I think it is important that I take a moment to reiterate briefly our policies on these two issues.

Settlements in Occupied Territory. U.S. policy toward the establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories is unequivocal and has long been a matter of public record. We consider it to be contrary to international law and an impediment to the successful conclusion of the Middle East peace process. We have consistently urged Israel to halt actions to create new settlements or to seize land to expand existing ones. We regard such restraint as particularly important while the autonomy negotiations are underway.

The Camp David framework does not refer specifically to Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. Nevertheless, certain questions concerning the status of the settlements during the transitional period will obviously have to be resolved in the

course of the autonomy negotiations.

The permanent resolution of the settlements issue must then be decided in the subsequent negotiations on the final status of the occupied territories.

Jerusalem. Our policy on Jerusalem has remained consistent under the past four presidents. As President Carter stated on March 3, our position on the status of Jerusalem has not changed. That position remains as indicated by the President in his letter to President Sadat signed at the time of the Camp David accords.

With respect to the future of Jerusalem, it has been our consistent position that the final status of the city must be settled in the context of negotiations for a final peace. We believe that whatever solution is eventually agreed upon should preserve Jerusalem as an undivided city. It should provide for free access to the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian holy sites without distinction or discrimination for the free exercise of worship. The solution should assure the basic rights of all the city's residents. We have taken no position on exactly how the final status of Jerusalem might be defined.

The Peace Process. In sum, Mr. Chairman, there has been no change in U.S. policy as we continue our dedicated efforts toward a comprehensive settlement. Before turning to your questions, I would like to say a few final words about the Middle East peace process as a whole. Over the past three years, there is no foreign policy goal on which the President and I have worked harder than a genuine peace in the Middle East. The achievement at Camp David, the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, the launching of negotiations to establish full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza are historic accomplishments, particularly when viewed against the past history of this tragic conflict.

It is critically important that we concentrate our full and undivided attention on the autonomy negotiations and do all we can to give these talks the best possible prospect for success. The autonomy negotiations offer the first real opportunity for Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza to achieve full autonomy within the context of assured Israeli security, as the next step toward achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement.

As reflected in the agreement reached at Camp David, such a peace is deeply in the interests of the United States, of Israel, of Israel's neighbors, and of the world. Every decision we have made — and will make — is designed to move us toward that goal.

With this in mind, the President has invited President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin each to come to Washington in early April to discuss with him how best we can accelerate the movement toward our mutual objective.

ISRAELI PROVOCATIONS

The bombardment to which the town of Sidon in South Lebanon was subjected elicited two kinds of reaction from the Palestine Liberation Organization. Its local commanders retaliated immediately with the means they have at their disposal. But the leadership in Beirut, realizing the complexity of the situation, contented itself with watching and waiting. The temptation to answer the Israelis and their allies in kind must have been great. But it has been resisted.

The unprovoked attack on Sidon has two dimensions. The first is a local one. The right-wing militias of Saad Haddad had made some demands on the central government, and were using the bombardment as a means of pressure so that they are met. If this was the case, then the Palestinians could have dealt with the provocation without fear of wider repercussions.

But the second, and more worrying dimension is the Israeli one. The right-wing militias could have been ordered to attack Sidon by the Israelis, so that the PLO is dragged into battle. This would have far reaching effects both on the presence of the Palestinian forces in South Lebanon, and on the laborious reconciliation process now taking part in Lebanon. And it was this that made the Palestinians careful.

The continued bombardment and its extent — many other areas beside Sidon have been hit — point to Israel's hand in the affair. Small wonder, given that an explosion in Lebanon is the best way to divert attention from the difficulties the Israeli government is having both in relation to Egypt and the United States, its partners in the Camp David "peace process."

The constant provocations the Israelis and their allies in South Lebanon offer the Palestinians are designed to precipitate a retaliation by the PLO, and thence a large scale incursion by the Israelis. The Israelis then would use their occupation of the area as a card, to play against the pressures on them to dismantle their old settlements on the West Bank and to desist from building new ones.

It is good, therefore, that the PLO maintains its policy of restraint in the face of provocation, until such time as the conditions are ripe for a different course.

ARAB LEAGUE ANNIVERSARY

The opening of the new Arab League session coincides with its thirty fifth anniversary, as well as being its first anniversary away from its original home in Cairo. The League therefore has proved to be the most durable symbol of the unity of purpose of the Arab world. Sadly, and with the session coinciding also with the failure of recent efforts to convene a new Arab summit, it is at the moment the only symbol.

It would, of course, be foolish to expect miracles from the League's current series of meetings. Yet the Arab world ought to be thankful that one of its institutions at least has proved to be stronger than the internal dissensions which constantly bedevil the Arab scene, and render its unity of action on the larger issues confronting the nation so sporadic. The minimum that the League has always provided ought therefore to be embraced and nurtured. It is the symbol of the possibility of a larger, more concrete Arab unity in the future.

The League's Secretary General Chedli Kuleibi, has repeatedly called on Arab leaders to develop the League's institutions and to endow it with executive powers. To these calls we add our modest voice. The League, as its secretary general had said, has always been the conscience of the Arab world. It should also be its arm.

saudi press review

Almost all the newspapers Monday led with the meeting of the higher committee headed by Interior Minister Prince Naif to study the basic statutes for government, the Consultative Council and the provinces. The minister was reported to have expressed the hope that the committee will complete its task in a short time. He also said that new statutes will merely amend those now in force in the Kingdom.

The newspapers frontpaged meetings between the defense ministers of Saudi Arabia and Austria, quoting Prince Sultan as saying that the Kingdom will have a \$200 million arms deal with Austria. In a front-page story, *Al Medina* reported that an agreement for the construction of a petrochemical complex in Yanbu will be signed by the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation

(SABIC) and Mobil Oil late in April.

Al Riyadh highlighted on its front page discussions between Syrian President Hafez Assad and President Chedli Benjedid of Algeria in Damascus and said there was a likelihood the summit meeting of the "Steadfastness Front" states would be deferred.

Al Jazirah highlighted on its front page the sudden arrival of the former Shah of Iran in Cairo Sunday after four months' stay in Panama, and in another story it quoted Nigeria's U.N. ambassador as denying his country's intention to restore diplomatic relations with Israel. The signing of an economic and technical cooperation agreement between Saudi Arabia and Australia Sunday was a prominent front-page story in *Okaz*, while *Al Yam* high-

lighted on its front page Lebanese Premier Selim Hoss's statement that strengthened relations with Syria and an understanding with the Palestinian resistance were the two basic conditions for the realization of national reconciliation.

Commenting on the current session of the Arab League in Tunis, *Al Jazirah* said it assumed great significance in view of the prevailing situation in the Middle East and America's increasing pressure on Europe to freeze its efforts.

The paper expressed the view that further economic and political sanctions on Egypt and a joint diplomatic move by the Arab states ought to be agreed upon by the League. But it warned immediately that any boycott or sanctions must not reflect on the Egyptian people who are a part and parcel of the Arab world and will play a heroic role in support of the Arab

causes. The paper said it hoped the Arab League would attach great weight to the positive trends now taking shape in Europe in favor of Palestinians and will support this shift in the European stance. For any joint action, it said, the spirit of solidarity must prevail and side differences eliminated.

In an editorial on autonomy talks, *Al Riyadh* came to a conclusion that President Jimmy Carter is preoccupied with the presidential election campaigns and therefore will not be able to negotiate.

It said he does not have anything new to offer under the prevailing circumstances, and is greatly dependent on Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin's biased attitudes at the expense of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. The paper said that Begin seems to be

dead set on submitting further demands to Washington and will not be prepared to offer anything, not even a halt to the construction of new Jewish settlements on occupied Arab soil.

The paper said that Carter would not negotiate but would be satisfied with a supervisory role. Begin, for his part, would not make any concessions. As such, the negotiator will be Sadat who has been a defeatist throughout the period following the Camp David accords, and is likely to come back from Washington empty-handed, as usual, according to the paper.

Al Medina concentrated on the Arab League session in Tunis and described it as the only framework of Arab solidarity. It said the League will continue to strive for Arab solidarity which has now

become a target of vile campaigns by the Zionists, the Communists and other hostile Western forces.

All these forces are making desperate attempts to keep the Arabs apart, it said. The paper added that there were also some forces in the Arab world which were bent upon creating side issues in the Arab world, with a view to keeping them engrossed in meaningless squabbles.

Under these circumstances, the paper said, the best course for the Arabs was to foil all those plots and conspiracies whose basic aim is to divert the Arabs from the basic issues: Palestine and Jerusalem. It is time for the Arabs to take bold and prudent stances in order to be able to streamline their ranks to thwart all hostile attempts against him, the paper said.

السعودية

A festival of Pakistani food and music

By Reana Siddiqi

JEDDAH — After its success last year, Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has brought its cuisine to the Kingdom again. Beginning March 25, the Al Badr Sheraton in Jeddah will host a week-long Food Festival sponsored by PIA. Trained cooks from the PIA kitchen have already arrived in the Kingdom to serve an array of Pakistani dishes.

A.R. Raza, in charge of the Airlines Food Planning Services, has come for the occasion to supervise the cuisine. Top notch musicians with their colorful traditional attire and instruments have been flown from Pakistan to the Festival and will be performing every evening. Folk tunes will feature such traditional instruments as the 'sitar', 'shehnai' (flute) and 'tabla' (drum).

Last month, PIA organized its first Food Festival in the Eastern Province at the Al Jossabi Hotel which proved to be a success. The Festival turned out to be a business scoop as many residents of Al Khobar, who seem to have developed a taste for Pakistani dishes, have planned group tours to Pakistan after a sampling of Pakistani food.

Khurshid Anwer, general manager of PIA for Saudi Arabia, East Africa and Nigeria said, "Pakistan has nurtured a variety of civilizations which have left their distinct mark on its cuisine." Guests during the Food Festival, will thus, have a variety of dishes from which to choose.

According to Anwer, airlines are playing an important social role around the world. Many international airlines, for instance, encourage sports by acting as sponsors for international tournaments. There is also the example of Saudia which has been very prominent on the car racing scene. Its cars have scored a number of Grand Prix victories with driver Alan Jones.

PIA has also been supporting squash and cricket. Similarly, airlines find it increasingly attractive to sponsor food weeks as Air France, British Airways and Scandinavian Airlines System, to name a few have done in the recent past of activity for the Airlines and trend that is likely to continue," Anwer said.

To celebrate the occasion of the Food Festival, Anwer Jamal, the chairman of PIA, and his wife, are coming to Jeddah. He will be at the dinner, hosted by PIA, on March 25 to inaugurate the Festival. Present will also be a number of Saudi dignitaries including Captain Ahmed Mattar, the head of Saudia, as well as Members of the Diplomatic Corps. There is a separate dinner planned for ladies on March 26.

The Food Festival will be open to the public and for a price of SR70 guests will be able to enjoy the Pakistani dishes and to the sound of Pakistani folk music. An added attraction at the Festival will be the prizes being offered. The first prize is two first class round trip tickets to Manila, courtesy of PIA, with seven days stay at the Manila Sheraton contributed by the Sheraton chain). The second prize is two first class tickets to any destination in Pakistan.

SOME SAMPLINGS FROM THE PIA KITCHEN (Exclusive to Arab News)

- MURGH CURRY (Chicken Curry)**
- 1 medium sized chicken, cut into pieces
 - 2 teaspoons ground coriander
 - 2 teaspoons ground garlic
 - 2 onions sliced
 - Salt to taste
 - 2 teaspoons red chili powder
 - 1 cup yoghurt
 - 2 teaspoons ground ginger
 - 1 cup shortening



Musicians with tabla (drum), sitar (stringed instrument) and shehnai (wind instrument)



PIA Chairman Anwer Jamal with Saudi guests at the Al Khobar food festival.

Poultry

MURGH TIKKA

- 1 medium sized chicken, quartered
 - 1/2 tsp. red chili powder
 - 1/2 tsp. ground garlic
 - 1/2 tsp. ground ginger
 - 2 tbsps. lemon juice
 - Salt to taste
 - 250 grs. curd
- Mix the ingredients. Marinate the chicken in this mixture for 8-10 hours. Broil on open fire or under a gas burner until golden brown. Serve hot with tomatoes, onion rings and wedges of lemon.

MURGH CURRY

- 1 medium sized chicken, cut into pieces

- 2 tps. ground coriander
- 1/2 tsp. ground garlic
- 2 onions, sliced
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 tsp. red chili powder
- 1/2 cup curd
- 1/2 tsp. ground ginger
- 1/2 cup shortening

Fry onions until brown. And 1/2 cup of water and all the spices and mix well and cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add chicken and curd. Cook for another 5-8 minutes and add 2 more cups of water. Simmer on a low fire until chicken is tender and a thick gravy remains.

Sea Food

MACHLI CURRY

- 1 large pomfret fish
- 1/4 coconut
- 2 red chillies
- 3 tbsps. cooking oil
- 2 onions
- 1 tsp. coriander powder
- 1 tomato
- Salt to taste

Clean and fillet the fish. Slice and fry onions lightly. Scrape the coconut and fry separately. Grind the onion, coconut, coriander powder and chillies together. Heat the oil and fry the spice paste. Add a glass of water and let simmer. When water comes to a rapid boil, remove the pan from the fire and add the fish pieces. Put the pan back on a slow fire simmer till fish is tender and a thick gravy is left. Add a sliced tomato

and simmer for another 5 minutes.

JHINJA CURRY

- 1/2 kg. shrimps, peeled and deveined
- 1/2 tsp. turmeric
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1/2 tsp. ground garlic
- 1/2 tsp. red chili powder
- 1/2 cup cooking fat
- 2 ripe tomatoes or 2 tps. tomato paste
- 1 tsp. ground ginger
- 1 lime
- Salt to taste

Heat cooking fat and fry shrimps lightly. Remove the shrimps and keep aside. Brown the onions, add the spices and mix well. Add the tomatoes and cook for 5 minutes. Add 2 cups of water and bring to a boil. Now reduce heat and add the shrimps. Cook for about 10 minutes or until thick gravy remains.

Desserts

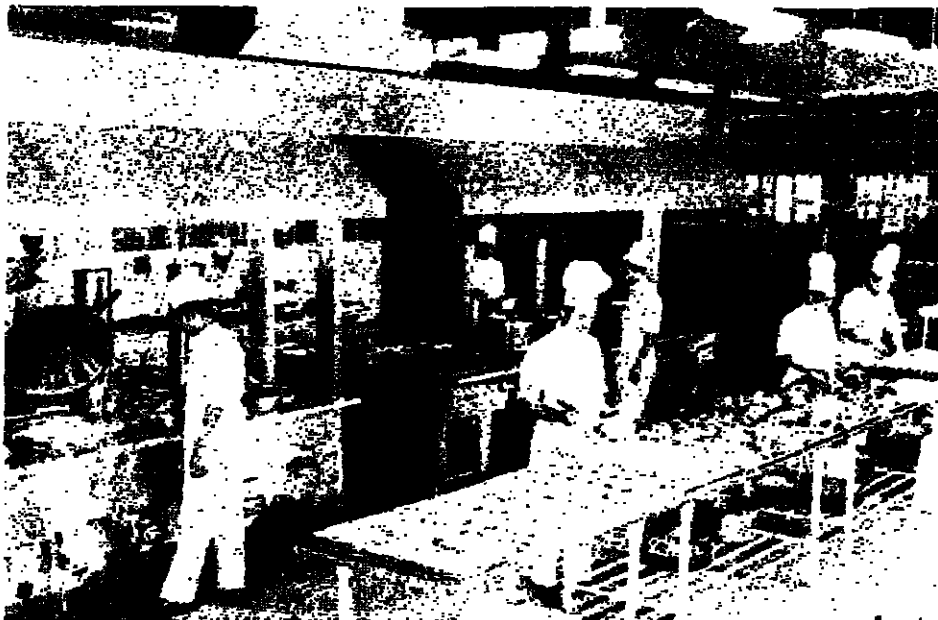
BADAM KHEER

- 1/2 kg. almonds
- 1/4 kg. sugar
- 120 grs. rice
- Rose water (optional)
- 4 pints milk
- 60 grs. cooking fat
- 120 grs. pistachios
- 2-3 pieces silver leaf for garnish

Blanche and grind almonds to a fine paste. Clean rice and boil with milk in a large pan. When the rice gets tender keep stirring with a wooden spoon. Add ground almonds and blend well. Pour in heated fat and keep stirring. When mixture thickens remove from fire. Add sugar and stir till sugar is well blended. Take out in serving dish, add rose water and garnish with pistachios and silver leaf.

GAJRILLA

- 1 kg. carrots
 - 2 1/2 cups sugar, or to taste
 - 30 grs. almonds
 - 1 dbsp. rose water
 - 6 pints milk
 - 120 grs. rice
 - 30 grs. sultanas
 - few pieces silver leaf for garnish
- Grate carrots and boil in water till carrots are tender. Add rice and let cook till rice is also tender. Now add the milk and let cook, stirring occasionally so that the mixture does not stick. Cook till the mixture becomes slightly thick. Add sugar and cook on a low fire till the sugar is well dissolved. Remove from fire and let cool. Sprinkle with rose water and cover the pan so that the flavor and aroma gets blended in. Take out in individual dishes, sprinkle with blanched almonds and sultanas and decorate with silver leaf. Chill before serving.



Inside view of PIA's Flight Kitchen at Karachi Airport

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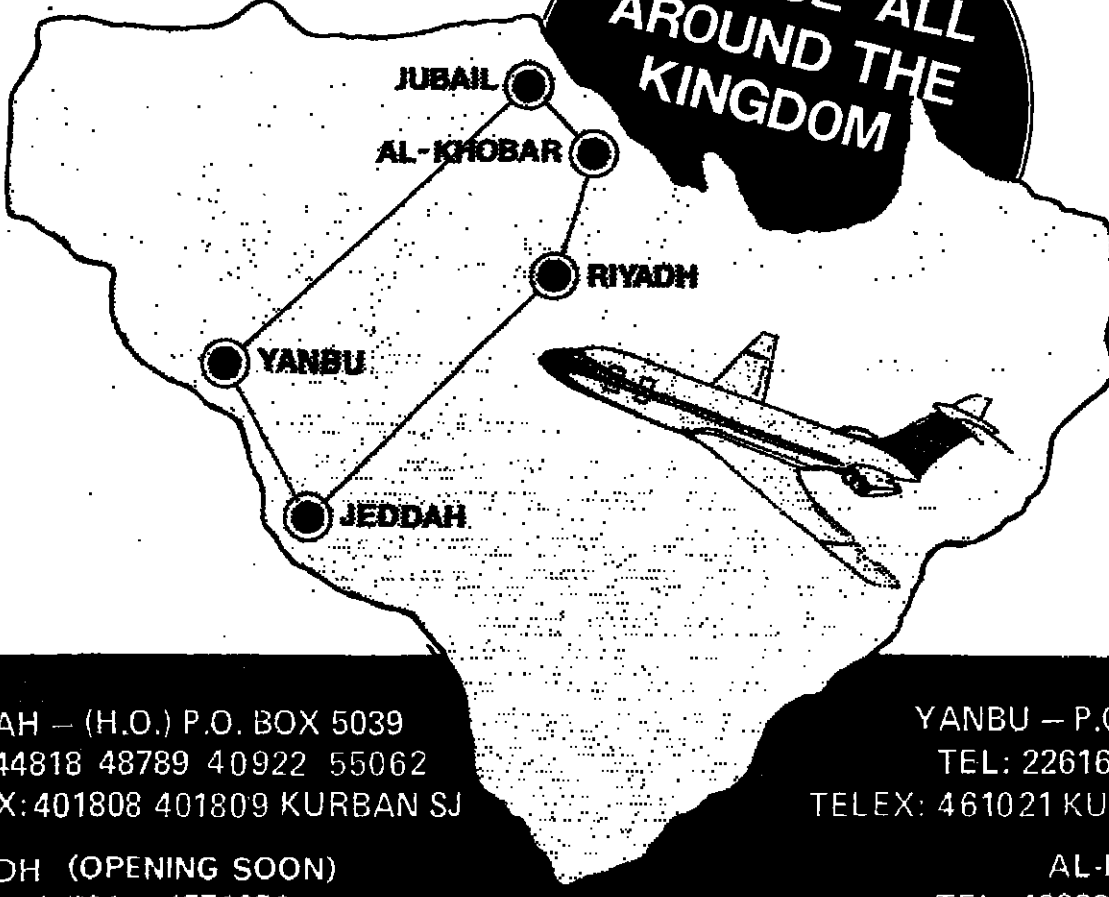
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Boom times are over

Firm laws, money goal in S. Korea

SEOUL, March 24 (LAT) — The metaphor that South Koreans use to describe what's happening these days is the one about rebuilding a house, stone by stone, after the roof and a couple of walls caved in on the old one.

The country has to construct a new political system to replace the one that collapsed with the assassination of President Park Chung Hee last October.

It is rebuilding an economy that, after a decade of miraculous growth, faltered and spun out of control last year and is still heading downward.

It must deal with an unusual peace offensive from the North as the Communist government, which has sworn to dominate South Korea for three decades, presses a new suit for unification.

All this must be done by a temporary civilian government with a shaky mandate, watched from the wings by a martial-law command that sometimes seems to have its own ideas of the direction South Korea should take.

The result is an apprehensive, what-can-happen-next mood. In the past South Korea has been preoccupied with economic growth, national defense and the restless search for freer institutions. Today it just wants things to slow down.

A major public opinion poll published last week by a newspaper, *Chosun Ilbo*, asked a national sample of people what they consider the government's most urgent task. Forty per cent chose "social stability" as the main concern, considerably more than the proportion worried most about national security and political liberalization.

But a series of interviews suggests that out of all turmoil of recent months a broad consensus is emerging. There is considerably more unity, confidence, and agreement on broad goals than many suspected would be possible when Park was killed on Oct. 26.

There is general agreement that a new constitution will be hammered out this year and the first free elections held early in 1981. The two political parties have shaped two constitutions remarkable more for their similarity than for their differences. The interim government is preparing to shape its own version, but so far no major contradictions have appeared.

The precarious administration of President Choi Kyu Hah has moved far to satisfy dissident groups by freeing political prisoners, granting amnesties, reinstating professors and students and jettisoning Park's authoritarian emergency decrees.

Opposition leaders such as Kim Dae Jung, who spent 33 months in prison under Park, want liberalization to move faster. But his criticisms are muted, and he credits the president with getting off on the right foot. "The basic direction of the process began under Choi is moving toward democratization," Kim said. "I think the degree and the speed in which it is going is not satisfactory."

Choi's government is hemmed in to an extent unknown to outsiders by the martial-law authorities, who intervene through press

censorship, control of public meetings and other less visible moves. The government, according to reliable sources, would have moved further to restore campus freedoms if the military had not objected.

Any attempt by the military to reverse the basic course would meet with widespread opposition, even within the powerful corporate community, which was angered by the Dec. 12 coup within the military because it created an image of instability harmful to business. But many fear some new social convulsion — such as a campus uprising — would trigger a military crackdown.

Even some dissidents who went to jail under Park are urging students to go slow, arguing that full liberalization will come in time. "We should not provide an excuse for the military to come in," said Kim Dong-Gill, a Yonsei University professor who served a year's prison term under Park, and who is widely admired by students.

Economic rehabilitation is taking place against the backdrop of a shattering around of inflation, which the government estimates will be around 23 per cent, and which other economists think will be close to 30 per cent. The combination of increases by the organization of petroleum exporting, countries and a 16 per cent devaluation of the Korean currency, the won, caused oil prices to shoot up 60 per cent last month. Premium gasoline costs \$4.50 a gallon at the pump — perhaps the world's highest rate — and prices for everything else are skyrocketing.

Even before those shocks early this year, the famed Korean economy was slumping

3 N. Koreans shot at border

SEOUL, March 24 (R) — South Korean troops said Monday they shot dead three armed North Korean agents south of the demilitarized zone dividing the two Koreas.

The defense ministry here said three Czechoslovak-made pistols, 12 hand grenades and 300 rounds of ammunition were found on the North Korean bodies.

On the southern resort island of Cheju, some 350 prisoners seized control of a prison for about three hours Sunday night, smashing doors and breaking windows to demand better treatment, sources said Monday.

The riot occurred when prison officials tried to punish some inmates with solitary confinement for previous disturbances.

The prison is located some 400 kilometers south of Seoul.

The prisoners were demanding a cut in compulsory work time by one hour, the right to private meals provided by their families and the reinstatement of war officers fired for conveying messages from families to prisoners in violation of the regulations.

Prison authorities reinforced by police and military men fired tear gas to restore order but it only aggravated the situation, the sources said.

badly. Exports, the main economic engine here, began slipping last spring, giving birth to a balance of payments deficit. An economy that grew at 10 per cent a year through most of the 1970's leveled off to 7 per cent last year, and the most optimistic projection for this year is 5 per cent.

But the widespread fears of collapse of last fall and winter are gradually dissipating. Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Planning Lee Hahn-Been points out that exports have started climbing since the devaluation of the currency, and that personal savings are growing as a result of higher interest rates. Some small and medium-sized companies are going under, he acknowledges, but the large conglomerates are weathering the strain.

Foreign investors have not fled. "We have more offers for loans than we can use," said K.H. Lee, vice chairman of the Samsung group of companies. "The banks are still coming to us."

The most revealing gauge of South Korea's fiscal resilience is the willingness of foreign banks to tide things over with direct loans to the government. When the Korean Exchange Bank went to market last winter, hoping for a \$300 million syndicated loan, the prospects were not encouraging. But American, Canadian and European banks jumped in so enthusiastically that when the agreement is signed March 26 in New York, the total subscription is likely to be \$500 million.

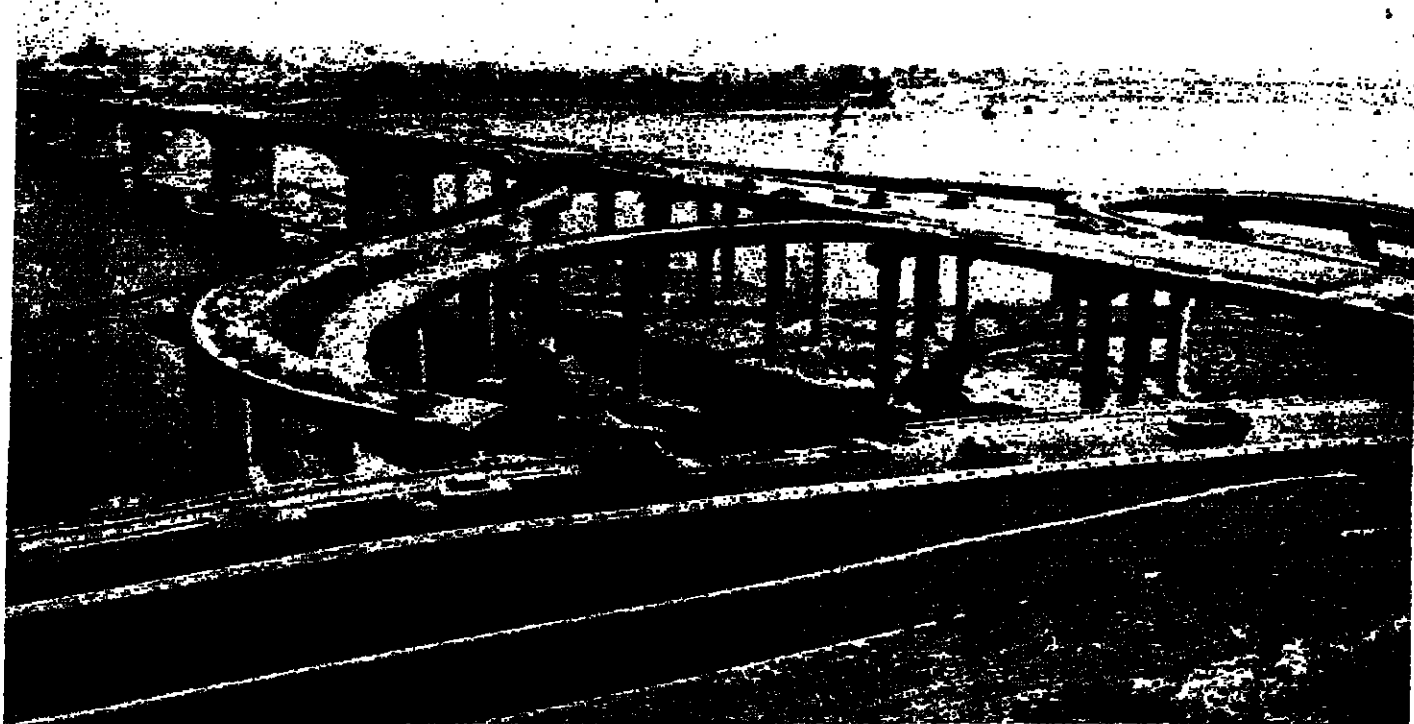
"It was a test of whether South Korea is real, and whether it is going to even be here 10 years from now," said Laurence W. Berger, general manager of Morgan Guaranty Trust, which was agent for the syndication. "The answer is that most bankers think it is for real. South Korea is not a banana republic."

North Korea's urgent pressure to reconvene talks on unifying the country have put the South on a spot, but there is no serious disagreement on how to respond. Unification remains a remote and distant goal to politicians of all stripes here, and the North's overtures have not evoked great enthusiasm in Seoul.

The South's government is agreed on a posture of testing the North's willingness to take small steps towards normal relations if the suggested conference of prime ministers ever takes place.

This means a gradual opening of mail service between the two countries, contacts between divided families, joint sports events and cultural exchanges. Only if those tentative moves work out peacefully would the south even consider entering into economic-cooperation projects, the item that seems highest on the North-South "confederation" that would lead to actual unification is so remote that the South's negotiators don't spend much time thinking about it now.

What worries the government is concern that its moves might be perceived as too slow and disinterested by South Koreans. The ideal of unification is widely popular, an extremely emotional issue among millions of people who have relatives on the other side.



The Songso Bridge to Seoul, begun during Korea's economic boom of the mid-1970's. Economists say the growth years are over.

Discourages violent change

'Go slow,' Soviet writer warns rebel states

MOSCOW, March 24 (AP) — A Soviet foreign affairs journal has published two articles that appear to warn young revolutionary states to go slow in making radical social transformations.

The two-part series in the weekly *New Times* has attracted the attention of Western diplomats, who see it in part as an explanation of cautious policies by the pro-Soviet government in Afghanistan.

The articles debunk the idea that "a rifle will do the job" in transforming societies, and argues instead for gradualism, democratic principles and careful economic development.

The articles, by Yevgeny Ambartsumov, appear in consecutive issues of the journal, published in nine languages and widely distributed abroad.

They stress that Russia's development into a socialist state began in the special conditions of World War I, which required the new leaders to use "rigid centralization, temporary restrictions of democracy and the like."

Ambartsumov recognized that revolutionary regimes of the present, faced by "subversive activities of imperialism," must take strong steps to defend themselves. But he said "is also happens that political power and

those in whom it is vested become, as it were, absolutized."

Ambartsumov condemned Uganda's Idi Amin, "who played havoc with the country by expelling foreign tradesmen, craftsmen and specialists and decided to compensate for this by proclaiming a 'new' system, which in reality became a reign of despotism and arbitrariness."

He praised, however, the current leaders of Afghanistan for realizing that their country is overwhelmingly illiterate and that they can

hope to create now only the basis of a future socialism.

"The new Afghan government realizes the great danger of running ahead of development," Ambartsumov said.

The articles speak favorably of the Soviet Union's new economic policy (NEP) period in the early 1920's, when the young Soviet government decided to encourage small-scale private enterprise and invite foreign investment to strengthen its economy.

Earthquake hits Aleutian Islands

PALMER, Alaska, March 24 (AP) — A large earthquake hit the Aleutian Islands Sunday night but there were no reports of major damage, the Alaska Tsunami Warning Center said.

The quake, with a preliminary magnitude of 6.6 on the Richter scale, had an epicenter 64 kms east of Nikolski or about 1,440 kms southwest of Anchorage, said seismologist George Carte.

He said the quake was felt "quite strongly" at the towns of Unalaska, Dutch Harbor and Nikolski, all located on western islands in the Aleutian chain.

"There was some very minor damage a Nikolski, with items knocked off shelves and small items damaged," Carte said.

The quake hit the region at 7:01 p.m. Pacific Standard Time, he said. It was followed by some small aftershocks.

"At this point, we don't expect any danger from a tidal wave," Carte said.

The Richter scale is a measure of ground motion as recorded on seismographs. Ever increase of one number means a tenfold increase in magnitude. Thus a reading of 7, reflects an earthquake 10 times stronger than one of 6.5.

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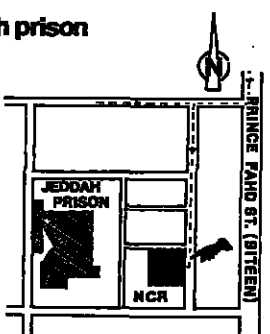
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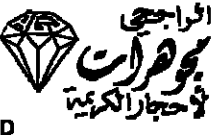
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wedes okay completion of nuclear power plan

it 40 per cent cast 'no' votes;
ime minister caught in middle

OCKHOLM, March 24 (AP) — A clear
ity of Swedish voters have approved
letion of Sweden's 12-reactor nuclear
am, according to a projection from early
e in a nuclear referendum.

" alternatives polled a combined 57
nt, according to the projection released
day.

leaders of the third, "no", alternative
no want to phase out the six running
rs within ten years and stop any further
ar development — vowed to continue
nt-nuclear campaign.

negative vote was cast by nearly 40 per
of those voting.

though the referendum, like three pre-
ones in Sweden in six decades, is only
ry, all major parties had promised to
by the outcome.

re than five million Swedes, close to 75
ent of the 6.3 million eligible voters,
— about 15 per cent less than in last
general election.

out 3.3 per cent of the voters put in
ballots. This and the low turnout were
as a voter protest that politicians had
ed their responsibility in the laps of the
orate and offered vague alternatives
no clear-cut yes or no to nuclear power.

outcome means that center leader
bjorn Falldin, leader of a crusade
st nuclear power, once again emerges as
loser and winner.

previous non-Socialist three-party
tion government with the Liberals and
ervatives broke up over the divisive nuc-
ssue. But he became premier again after
general election last September.

electorate's three choices on the ballot
ded halting the program or completing it
lowly phasing it out within 25 years dur-
creasing development of other alterna-
to oil and coal.

other "yes" choice added a require-
that nuclear and alternative renewable
gy sources be socialized.

ldin now faces the task of administering
letion of the 12-reactor program, of
h six plants are in use another four com-
nd and two in the early stages of construc-

uring an election campaign which pro-
d strange bedfellows in Swedish politics,
din's center party joined forces with the
imentary Communist party. He will be
l-pressed by the Communists who took
election outcome as a major victory and
ed to press on their demands for quick
ition of nuclear power.

alldin, who had agreed beforehand that
two "yes" alternatives would be counted
ther against the "no" line, said he was
pared to abide by the outcome, while he
arded the near 40 per cent gained by the
nuclears from most parties as "a clear

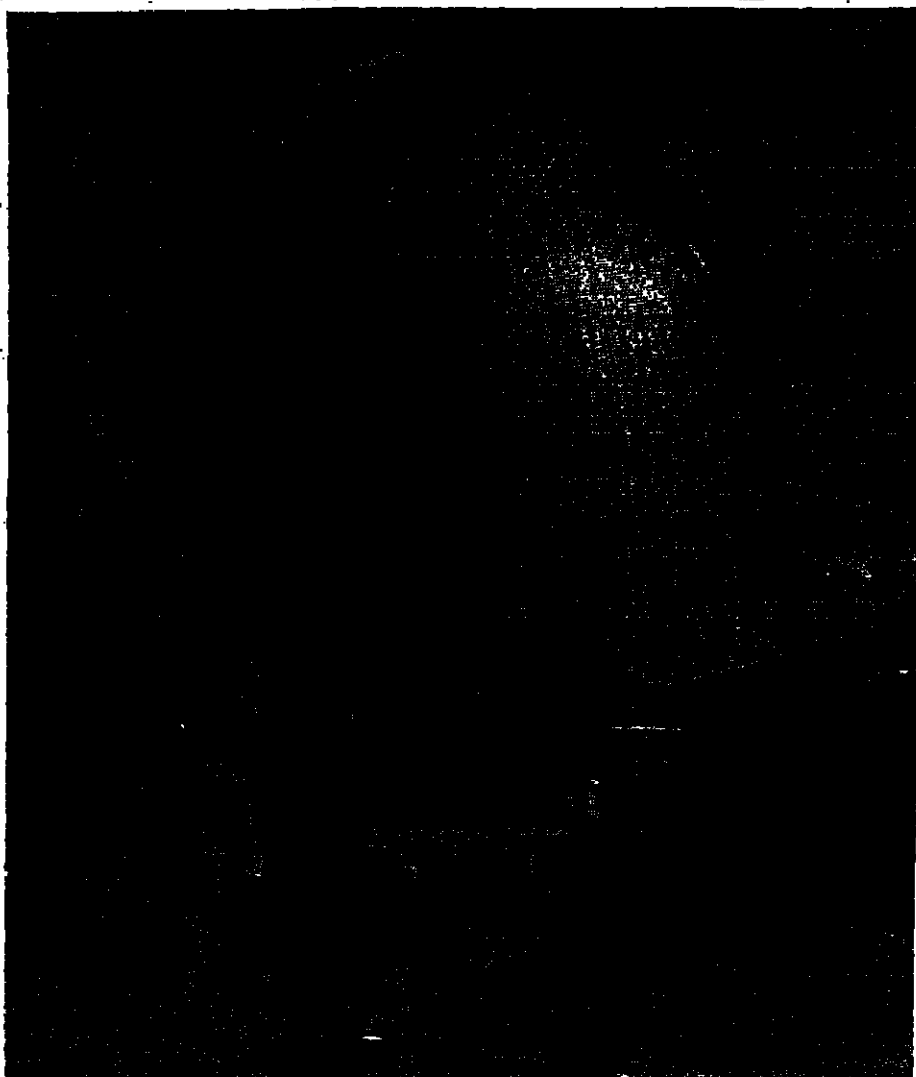
success for that line."

But even before the referendum, Falldin
had said he was hesitant about activating the
9th and 10th plants because a waste reprocess-
ing contract appeared only to cover reactors
No. 7 and 8.

The Social Democratic party and the small
Liberal party joined force in the campaign
behind line 2. Like line 1, which was spon-
sored by the Conservatives and industry, it
advocated fulfillment of the reactor program,
with phase-out within 25 years during
development of alternatives to oil and coal.
But it added that nuclear and alternative
renewable energy sources should be social-
ized.



Prime Minister Falldin: Loser and winner in Swedish reactor vote.



A nuclear reactor in Munch, West Germany. Swedes have approved the completion of a program calling for completion of 12 such generating stations. In the U.S., two nuclear plants were closed Sunday because of equipment problems.

Equipment problems 2 U.S. reactors shut down

NEW YORK, March 24 (AP) — Equip-
ment problems prompted the shutdown Sun-
day of reactors at two U.S. nuclear power
plants. One of them, in Connecticut, went out
of service for the fifth time in five weeks.

Officials at the Millstone nuclear plant in
Waterford, Connecticut, said operators shut
down a unit after discovering a malfunction in
a device that reheats water as it is circulated
through a steam generator. There was no
release of radiation, officials said.

In Southport, North Carolina, a nuclear
reactor at the Brunswick plant, owned by
Carolina Power and Light Co., automatically
shut down because of an instrument problem,
according to a company spokesman.

Mac Harris, public relations officer for the

utility, said small amounts of radiation were
released inside the containment building, but
that they were well within permissible levels.
No radiation was released outside the plant,
he said.

The unit should be back in operation
within a few days, he said.

Emmanuel Forde, a spokesman for the
Millstone plant, said what in each of the four
previous shutdowns the unit turned off auto-
matically.

Forde said the company was not "unduly
concerned" about the series of shutdowns
and that they were "fairly minor occur-
rences."

He said none of them posed a danger to the
public.

Before unbelieving fans Italian soccer stars nabbed

ROME, March 24 (R) — Italy's fraud squad
has issued arrest warrants against 13 soccer
players and the president of first division
club A.C. Milan.

Fans looked on unbelieving when players
were bundled into police cars as they left
stadiums after Sunday's games in six cities
across Italy. Eleven of them and Milan presi-
dent Felice Colombo spent Sunday night in
Rome's Regina Coeli jail.

The two others have not yet been arrested
but they were expected to give themselves up
when they had contacted their lawyers.

All are charged with conspiracy to defraud
in connection with an alleged betting ring
revealed earlier this month by two illegal
bookmakers.

Those held include seven internationals,
three players for Italy's reserve team and a
youth international.

In addition, 21 players, among them
Perugia center-forward Paolo Rossi, key man
in Italy's hopes for next June's European
nations cup, have been ordered to appear
before magistrates to answer questions on
their possible involvement.

Sunday's arrests are the latest move in a
scandal which has mushroomed since news-
papers began it last January.

Japanese asks anti-Soviet alliance

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — Former
Japanese Foreign Minister Kiichi Miyazawa
has called for a North American-West
European-Japanese "alliance of common
values" to defend democracy against the
challenge of the Soviet-led Communist bloc.

Miyazawa told the first plenary session of
the Trilateral Commission here that the
United States can no longer singlehandedly
carry the leadership of the so-called free
world.

He urged that the Japanese themselves
should play a bigger role in the defense of

shared democratic values.

The trilateral commission is composed of
leading personalities of North America, the
European community and Japan, regions
which together account for about 75 per cent
of the gross national product of the non-
communist world.

One aim of the group founded in 1972, of
which U.S. President Jimmy Carter and his
security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski are
members, is to develop a common approach
to the world's main problems by developing a
continuing dialogue between its leaders.

On March 1 two illegal Rome bookmakers
named 27 players they said had taken the
bribes but had failed to deliver the results.

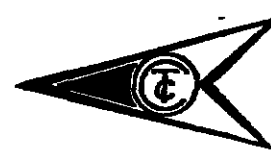
The bookmakers, since detained, set off a
judicial inquiry which has so far led to 50
official warnings of possible proceedings.

Those warned included players, the presi-
dents of four clubs, managers and coaches
and one first division referee.

Sources close to the investigators said
further arrests were probable.

Those under arrest are Felice Colombo,
president of A.C. Milan and Giorgio Morini
and Enrico Albertosi of the same club,
Giuseppe Wilson, Lionello Manfredonia,
Bruno Giordano and Massimo Cacciatori of
Lazio, Luciano Zecchini and Mauro Della
Martina of Perugia, Stefano Pellegrini of
Avelino, Guido Magherini of Palermo and
Sergio Girardi of Genoa.

Warrants have also been issued for Gian-
franco Casarsa of Perugia and Claudio Merlo
of Lecce.



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An investing proposition

Diamonds gain strength

LONDON, March 24 (R) — Diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but investors too are finding them an increasingly attractive proposition.

An exceptionally fine one-carat gem was worth \$19,000 in January 1979, \$39,000 a year later and in March its wholesale value rocketed to \$60,000, according to London dealer Roy Huddleston.

So investors are turning to diamonds, which Huddleston says are a safer hedge against inflation than gold or shares.

But Huddleston emphasises that the one-carat top quality gem is an extreme case and it often takes time to obtain the best price.

Huddleston says the growing interest in investing in diamonds is yet another sign that investors are putting their faith in "real things" rather than paper currency.

But the market has been depressed recently by high interest rates and falling consumer demand for luxury items such as diamonds.

The diamond market is unusually well equipped to cope with fluctuations in demand as the price of uncut stones is fixed by a sophisticated cartel, the London-based Central Selling Organisation (CSO).

The CSO is itself part of the South African De Beers Mining Group, and has an impressive record for maintaining stability in the diamond market for the last 40 years.

The CSO handles about 85 per cent of world production. The Soviet Union and Ghana are the only diamond-producing countries outside the CSO. But a De Beers spokesman said the organization indirectly handled a high proportion of Russian output.

Rough gems are sold at "light" held 10 times a year and attended by 250 dealers from the world's main cutting centers — Antwerp, Israel, New York, Puerto Rico and London.

Each dealer is offered a selection of rough diamonds which he can either totally accept or reject. He cannot pick and choose.

Diamonds range from exceptionally clear gems weighing hundreds of carats to poorly shaped muddy yellow stones suitable only for industrial use.

CSO sales increased slightly from \$2.551 billion in 1978 to \$2.598 billion last year.

Calm has been restored at the CSO following a turbulent period two years ago when cutters, especially in Israel, were hoarding stocks to protect themselves against inflation.

This could have boosted prices of available finished stones to fever levels and resulted in rough gems changing hands at prices up to 90 per cent higher than those of the CSO.

De Beers stepped in decisively in March 1978 by slapping on an across-the-board 40 per cent surcharge which killed the incipient black market and flushed out diamonds which had been stuck in the pipeline.

The surcharge was removed in August 1978 when prices were increased by an average of 30 per cent. This was followed by a 13 per cent increase in September 1979 and a further 12 per cent rise last month.

World diamond production has remained fairly stable recently at about 47 million carats annually (one carat equals 200 milligrams or 0.007 ounces).

The world's largest producer is Zaire which produced 17 million carats in 1978, of which only about two per cent were of gem quality.

The Soviet Union is the next largest producer (about 12 million carats), followed by South Africa (eight million carats), and Botswana (2.5 million carats).

Industry sources say the supply of good quality gem diamonds is slowly being exhausted, although promising discoveries have been made in the Kimberley region of Western Australia recently.

A spokesman for the Rio Tinto Zinc Mining Company said it was too early to tell if the deposits were commercially viable but a London dealer said he was sure Australia would become a significant producer in the next five years.

Demand for industrial diamonds is growing at about 10 per cent a year. They are fitted to drills on oil rigs and give a cutting edge to scalpels used in microsurgery.

The market in industrial diamonds is quieter than the gem trade, mainly because of strong commercial resistance to steep price increases in such an important material.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5.00 P.M. Saturday

	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
U.S. Dollar	3.34	3.35	3.35
Pound Sterling	7.30	7.45	7.35
Deutsche Mark (100)	178.00	179.00	178.50
Swiss F (100)	188.00	193.00	188.25
French F (100)	77.00	79.00	77.25
Italian Lira (10,000)	38.00	40.00	38.90
Lebanese Lira (100)		98.25	97.80
Syrian Lira (100)		79.50	87.50
Egyptian Pound		4.50	4.46
Kuwaiti Dinar		12.18	12.13
Jordanian Dinar		11.20	11.04
Emirates Dirham (100)		89.50	89.50
Qatari Riyal (100)		91.50	91.50
Bahraini Dinar		8.90	8.90
Iranian Rial (100)		—	—
Iraqi Dinar (100)		—	—
Yemeni Rial (100)		74.00	73.75
Moroccan Dirham (100)		84.50	85.50
Indian Rupee (100)		—	41.20
Pakistani Rupee (100)		—	34.00
Gold kg.		61,000.00	—
10 Tolas bar		7,150.00	—
Silver kg.		—	—
Japanese Yen (1,000)	13.40	—	13.55
Canadian Dollar	2.83	—	—
Belgian Franc (1,000)	110.00	118.00	—
Dutch Guilder (1,000)	162.00	—	164.00
Spanish Peso (1,000)	—	50.50	50.00
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	80.00	—
Philippines Peso (1.00)	—	—	—
Singapore	—	—	1.55

Cash and Transfer rates supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange and Commerce, Gabel St., Jeddah — Tel: 23815

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THE SALES ADMINISTRATION

High interest rates stagger troubled Brazilian economy

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 24 (R) — Soaring international interest rates are aggravating Brazil's already troubled economy.

But for the country's optimistic Planning Minister Antonio Delfim Netto the outlook is bright and overseas confidence in this vast and potentially wealthy nation is high.

Speaking at a press luncheon recently, Delfim Netto told journalists that Brazil would have no trouble raising the \$12 billion it needs in foreign loans this year despite tighter worldwide borrowing conditions.

His statement came at a time when the national economy was reeling from a series of setbacks that have sent inflation climbing to around 80 per cent and pushed the foreign debt to \$50 billion.

Currency reserves fell \$1 billion by the beginning of March this year from \$9.7 billion at the end of 1979, Delfim Netto said.

The continuing rise in international interest rates is adding to Brazil's troubles and could add as much as \$500 million to the initially estimated \$5.5 billion of next interest payments on the external debt this year, he said.

More than half of Brazil's external debt is tied to floating interest rates. But

Delfim Netto is convinced that Brazil will reach its target of \$20 billion in exports this year.

He is equally optimistic that the trends of the early part of the year, when the trade deficit amounted to \$782 million for January and February, will be reversed.

He said the poor figures were due to large oil imports — Brazil has to import more than 30 per cent of its oil needs — and low exports.

He said economic stability would have to be achieved before democracy could function properly and social problems be tackled.

High international interest rates have had little impact in the mass of Brazil's 120 million people, many of whom live in abject poverty.

The government has imposed severe controls on spending by state-run agencies and credit, especially hire purchase terms, has become more difficult to obtain.

But many of these measures were adopted before interest rates started spiraling.

One clear sign of the money shortage can be seen in this city where lack of funds has stopped work at the underground railway system before being half-completed.

Economic experts disagree on U.S. wage-price control

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP) — U.S. President Jimmy Carter's chief economic adviser and his former deputy disagreed sharply Sunday on whether the nation needs mandatory wage and price controls to control inflation.

Alfred Kahn, chairman of the Council on Wage and Price Stability, said he was "much more persuaded than ever" that mandatory controls won't work.

"I do not believe the country would have the will...to do the things that are fundamentally necessary to attack inflation once it imposes controls," Kahn said in a nationally broadcast interview on ABC's "Issues and Answers."

But Barry Bosworth, a former director of the council and once A'ahn's assistant, said in a separate interview that "given a desire to slow the inflation, the choice is rapidly being reduced to one of severe recession versus wage-price controls."

Bosworth said he favors controls because a

deep recession would throw from 10 million to 15 million people out of work and "that's too high a price to pay."

But Kahn said that after a year and a half of leading the fight against inflation, "I know a lot more now about how controls operated in the past and I'm now much more persuaded than ever...that controls don't work, don't hit at the problem. They paper it over, they substitute for attacks on the fundamental problem."

Kahn argued that even an attempt to give Carter the power to impose mandatory controls "would set off a wild binge of anticipatory price increases."

Bosworth said the choice between controls and a deep recession has to be made because otherwise inflation will continue to worsen year after year. He said the nation now faces a minimum inflation rate of 10 per cent a year for all of this decade.

Australia expects huge investments

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia March 24 (AP) — Australia's abundant raw materials and energy reserves are about to attract massive investment in mining and manufacturing, Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser said Monday.

In a key address to the 20th annual conference of the Australian Petroleum Exploration Association (APEA) Fraser said, "projects about to go" involve 17 billion Australian dollars (\$18.7 billion).

"Twelve billion relates to investment for energy exports or investment in energy projects which will provide alternatives to oil use, or investment in industries in which

non-oil energy input is a large proportion of total cost," he said.

Fraser told the 700 Australian and foreign delegates that the figures did not include the giant Rundle shale oil project.

Fraser lashed out at Australian Labor Party support for a government-owned hydrocarbon corporation, calling the proposal similar to "grandiose plans unsupported by rational economic analysis."

Fraser accused Labor Party policies of impeding "the gathering momentum in energy exploration and development."

"Labor policies in the seventies produced investment fatigue. This would produce investment rigor mortis."

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Unions say

U.K. steel strike will drag on

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — Britain's 12-week-old national steel strike will drag on, steel unions said Monday after Employment Secretary James prior rejected their demand for a government inquiry into the dispute.

Bill Sims, general secretary of the dominant Iron and Steel Trades' Confederation, said that prior told leaders of the 13 unions he will stick to the policy of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher not to intervene in the strike.

Prior recommended the unions to ask for an inquiry by the state-assisted mediation body, the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS).

The 110,000 strikers against state-owned

British Steel Corp. want a raise of 19.7 per cent on average pay of 110 pounds (\$242) a week. BSC, which accounts for 35 per cent of all British-produced steel, has offered 10 per cent plus 4.4 per cent in local productivity deals.

The walkout began Jan. 2 strike pickets failed to shut down independent steel producers and despite solidarity boycotts of steel shipment transport workers and stevedores steel-users are importing steel through small ports around the country.

BSC says the strike will cost it more than 300 million pounds (\$660 million) and that each striker so far has lost more than 1,200 pounds (\$2,600) in earnings.

Kuwait won't raise interest ceiling

KUWAIT, March 24 (R) — Kuwait's Finance Minister Abdel-Rahman Al-Atiqi was quoted Monday as saying that the government did not intend raising the present 10 per cent interest rate ceiling despite higher rates offered in the West.

"I see no justification for raising the interest rate since it would benefit only the speculators," he told a Kuwaiti newspaper, *Al-Qabas*.

The newspaper said the minister also rejected the idea of revaluing the Kuwaiti dinar upward.

The minister denied there was a liquidity crisis in Kuwait, and said capital outflow for higher interests had had no negative effects locally.

Kuwaiti laws guarantee freedom of investment anywhere, the minister added.

UAE loans Sudan \$150 million

KUWAIT, March 24 (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has agreed to give Sudan two loans totaling \$150 million the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Anbas* said Monday.

Al-Anbas said the two countries also agreed to study the possibility of increasing the capital of their joint investment company, established in 1977, from \$20 million to \$70 million.

The agreements were reached during Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri's visit to the UAE last week, it said.

One loan was for \$100 million at a low interest rate and would be spent on completing the international airport at the Sudanese Capital Khartoum.

The paper said the other loan was worth \$50 million but gave no further details.

Egypt receives Japanese grant

TOKYO, March 24 (R) — Japan will give Egypt a grant of 30.2 million yen (about \$120,000) to help it buy necessary goods for economic development and welfare, the foreign ministry said Monday. Official documents on the aid were exchanged in Cairo Sunday.

Libya oil output officially reduced

NICOSIA, March 24 (AP) — Libya has notified its oil operators that it will reduce its total crude oil output by 300,000 barrels a day effective from April 1, the *Middle East Economic Survey* reported Sunday.

The cutback will bring production level to 1.75 million barrels a day, roughly down 17 per cent from the current level of 2.1 million barrels a day.

Libya's oil operators are the Oasis Group National Oil Corp., Occidental, AGIP, ENO, Mobil, Elf-Aquitaine and Womert-shall.

MESS said the operators were told that the production cutbacks were being made for technical reasons.

Saudi Arabian
Government Tenders

Authority	Description	No. of Tender	Price SR	Closing Date
Saudi Arabian Airlines	Supply of a mobile radio unit at Jeddah's new International Airport	3/80		April 14 (extended date) May 26
Ministry of Education	Supply of drugs and chemicals for 1980/81	8/T	300	May 26
Directorate General of Municipal and Rural Affairs, Western Province	Excavating of graveyards in Biljishi	18	300	April 26
" " "	Construction of lavatories in Khulais	19	250	April 27
" " "	Asphalting, paving and lighting of roads in Tabuk	20	1000	April 28
" " "	Construction of lavatories in Turabah	21	250	April 29

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OVER HILL—
OVER DALE

CRASH

AS HE WENT TO THE DUSTY TRAIL

BEEBLE BAILEY

I THOUGHT I SAW SOME STRANGE LIGHTS

A UFO?

THERE ARE NO UFO'S!

WELL, I HAVE THE FEELING SOMEONE UP THERE IS WATCHING US

YOU ARE SO RIGHT

HAGAR

I DON'T CARE WHERE YOU GO OR WHAT YOU DO—JUST TELL ME WHEN YOU'LL BE HOME SO I DON'T WAIT DINNER!

OKAY

WELL? WHEN WILL YOU BE BACK?!

LATER

WIZARD

DID YOU PUT THE CAT OUT?

THE CAT DIED TODAY!

BOO HOO

ALL THE MORE REASON TO PUT HIM OUT

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I CAN'T SLEEP. WANNA PLAY CATCH?"

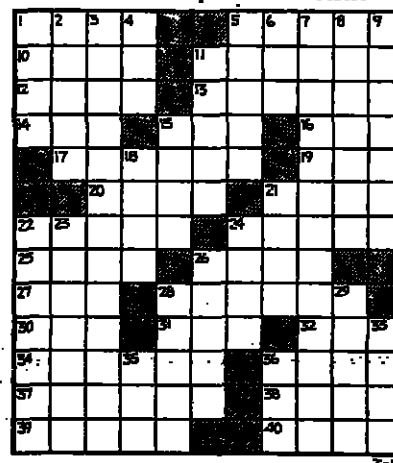
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword

by THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Clobber
5 Numbly
10 Knowing about
11 Thrash
12 Kickback
13 May Day
14 Frigid
15 In favor of
16 Tiny bird
17 Take on
18 Cry of discovery
19 Sturdy wood
20 Well, good: It
21 Large cut of beef or lamb
22 Ottoman sultan
23 Esau's father-in-law
24 Yugoslav
25 Cameroun tribe
26 Talchier's art
27 Type of fabric
28 Track of a wheel
29 Nigerian tribesman
30 Conductive to peace

DOWN
2 Piece of pencil
3 Walk
6 Mexican money
7 Cider
8 Poker term
9 DOWN
10 Simpleton
11 Glib
12 Hitler's notorious militia
13 Not vert.
14 Lachrymose
15 Hockey star
16 Like a fisherman's face
17 George
18 Send novel
19 Grew molar
20 Ghost
21 Custard cake
22 Mexican laborer
23 Singer-actor
24 Ives
25 Canadian province
26 Health resort
27 Turn
28 Liquid
29 Borelaine, e.g.
30 Woman in white
31 Confide in
32 Handboy
33 Insect
34 Health resort



DAILY CRYPTOQUOTE—Here's how to work it:
A X Y D L B A A K R
L O N G F E L L O W

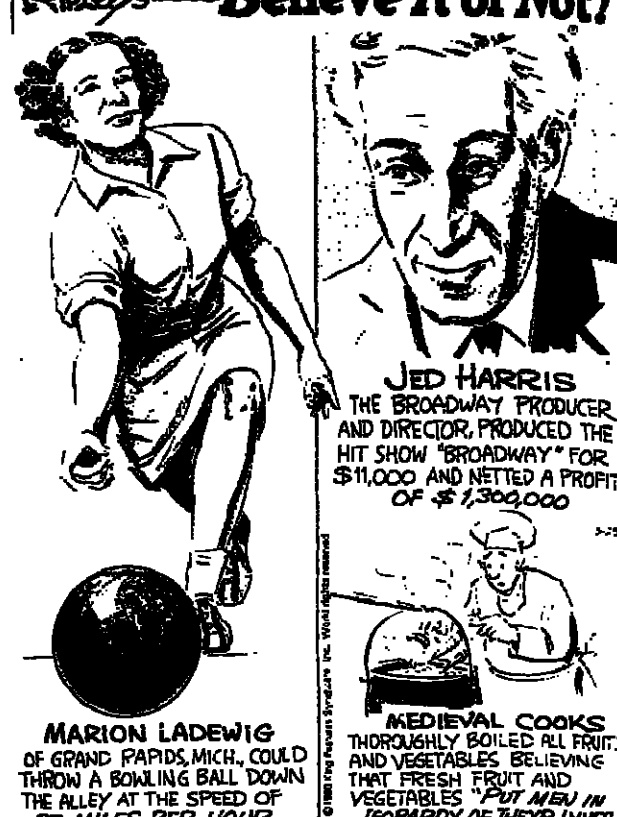
One letter simply stands for another. In this sample A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTES

YUGIWIUGIUXI YD QOI EUVS
FEUG QOKQ XKU QYI KUG ZIIW

MD QEJIQOIT—QOENKD WYUUI
Yesterday's Cryptquote: HEALTH LIES IN LABOR, AND THERE IS NO ROYAL ROAD TO IT BUT THROUGH TOIL—WENDELL PHILLIPS

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Contract Bridge

South Dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 6 3
♥ 10 8 5 5
♦ J 7 8 4 2
♣ 6 2

WEST
♠ K 7 5
♥ Q 9 2
♦ 10 8 3 3
♣ A J 8

EAST
♠ 8
♥ J 7 4 3
♦ K Q 6
♣ K Q 10 9 7 4

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 10 9 4 2
♥ A K
♦ A
♣ K 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
2♣ Pass 2NT Pass
4♣

Opening lead—ten of diamonds.

Declarer's most frequent problem is to find the method of play most likely to make the contract. It sometimes requires very good judgment to choose the best line of play, but in most cases the correct method is clear-cut, though not necessarily apparent.

For example, suppose you're in four spades in this deal and West leads a diamond. You win with the ace and the question is how to play the hand. It seems obvious

that you should try to ruff a club in dummy to acquire a tenth trick, but this is much easier said than done.

Let's say you played a low club at trick two in order to pave the way for a club ruff in dummy. East would win with the nine and return a trump. He would not have to be a genius to figure out what you're trying to do. Your best bet would be to finesse, but West unfortunately wins the trump with the king and returns a trump. Eventually you go down one.

However, this is the wrong way to play the hand. The right play at trick two is the king of clubs, not a low club! Observe the effect of this play: If West has the ace, which you should expect to happen half the time. In the actual case, West wins the king with the ace but is helpless.

He can lead a trump, which you'd win, but when you then play a second club, West would find himself stymied. He would be faced with the unhappy choice of letting you ruff a club in dummy or sacrificing his sure trump trick by leading a second trump.

The king of clubs lead at trick two is not something that springs readily to mind, but it greatly increases your chance to make the contract.

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ARAB NEWS CALENDAR

PRAYER TIMES

Tuesday	Fajr	Ishraq	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghreb	Isha
Mecca	5:08	6:25	12:34	3:59	6:36	8:06
Medina	5:06	6:20	12:35	4:01	6:37	8:07
Nejd	4:37	5:55	12:04	3:30	6:07	7:37

DHAHRAN TV

4:30 Children's Show	Woody Woodpecker: Robin-Phantom Palm Trees and Icebergs No. 405
4:57 Young Peoples Special	Head on Collision
5:20 Sanford & Son	South by Southwest Episode 7
5:46 Flying High	
6:33 Voyages of Charles Darwin	
7:36 The Duke	Pilot
9:11 Seasons of the Year	Court Circular

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Al-Jabbar Pharmacy	Ma'abadah, Near Flying Squad	
TAF		
Taf Pharmacy	Behind King's Hospital	
Baksh Pharmacy	Beside Asselan Station	
DAMMAM		
Osmah Pharmacy	Dhahran Road	21455
AL-KHOBAR		
Al-Jazirah Pharmacy	Beside Al-Jazirah Clinic	41429
ROFUF		
Al-Milhem Pharmacy	Municipality St.	23229

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Afternoon Transmission	9:00 Opening
2:00 Opening	9:01 Holy Quran
2:01 Holy Quran	9:05 Gems of Guidance
2:05 Gems of Guidance	9:10 Light Music
2:10 Light Music	9:15 Bouquet
2:20 On Islamic	9:45 Reflections of a Muslim
2:30 Radio Magazine	10:00 Islamic Contributions
3:00 NEWS	10:10 NEWS
3:10 Press Review	10:25 S.A.—A Daily Chronicle
3:15 Music	10:30 The Evening Show
3:20 World of Machines	11:00 The World of the Guitar
3:30 A Selection of Music	11:10 Music
3:40	11:15 In the Quiet
3:50 Closedown	11:45 On Islam
	12:00 Concert Choice
	12:45 A Rendezvous with Dreams
	01:00 Closedown

VOA

P.M.	News Summary
8:00 News Roundup	10:30 VOC Magazine
Reports: Actualities	America; Letter
Opinion: Analyses	Cultural; Letter
8:30 Dateline	11:00 Special English: News
News Summary	11:30 Music U.S.: (Jazz)
Special English: News; Feature. The Making of a Nation	
News Summary	VOA WORLD REPORT
9:30 Music USA: (Standards)	Midnight
10:00 News Roundup	12:00 News newsmakers' voices correspondents reports background features media comments news analyses.
Reports: Actualities	
Opinion: Analyses	

BBC

Morning Transmission

8.00 World News	4.00 World News
8.09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary	4.09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
8.30 Sarah Ward	4.30 The Pleasure's Yours
8.45 World Today	5.15 Report on Religion
9.00 Newsdesk	6.00 Radio Newsreel
9.30 Opera Star	6.15 Outlook
10.00 World News	7.00 World News
10.09 Twenty-Four Hour. News Summary	7.09 Commentary
10.30 Sarah Ward	7.15 Sherlock Holmes
10.45 Something to Show You	7.45 World Today
11.00 World News	8.00 World News
11.09 Reflections	8.09 Books and Writers
11.15 Piano Style	8.30 Take One
11.30 Brain of Britain 1978	8.45 Sports Round-up
12.00 World News	9.00 World News
12.09 British Press Review	9.09 News about Britain
12.15 World Today	9.15 Radio Newsreel
12.30 Financial News	9.30 Farming World
12.40 Look Ahead	10.00 Outlook News
12.45 The Tony Myatt	Summary

Evening Transmission

1.15 Ulster in Focus	12.15 Talkabout
1.30 Discovery	1.00 World News
2.00 World News	1.09 World Today
2.09 News about Britain	1.25 Financial News
2.15 Alphabet of Musical Curics	1.35 Book Choice
2.30 Sports International	1.40 Reflections
2.40 Radio Newsreel	1.45 Sports Round-up
3.15 Promenade Concert	2.00 World News
3.45 Sports Round-up	2.09 Commentary
	2.15 The Face of England

Your Individual Horoscope

Frances Drake

FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 1980

What kind of day will tomorrow be? To find out what the stars say, read the forecast given for your birth sign.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) ♈

Romantic feelings are to the fore. A time to greet the world with a smile. Creative work, hobbies, and dating are happily accepted.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) ♉

Watch self-indulgence. Otherwise, you should enjoy family life and private pastimes. Invite relatives over for a visit.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) ♊

You'll probably keep some of your romantic thoughts to yourself, yet you should have a pleasant time socializing with your friends.

CANCER (June 21 to July 21) ♋

A family member could object to company. A small financial opportunity has beneficial ramifications. The p.m. brings confidence.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 22) ♌

Personalities interfere with career agreements. Act on financial information. Important news from a distance. Make travel plans.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) ♍

Intense feelings affect financial and legal matters.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) ♎

The emphasis switches from career matters to friendships and social life. The stars favor romantic pursuits. Enjoy life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) ♏

You're inclined to be suspicious of close ones now, but the outlook is bright for career and work progress. Enjoy work for its own sake.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) ♐

You'll get good advice now re a career project. Don't let distractions interfere with routine. The p.m. favors creativity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) ♑

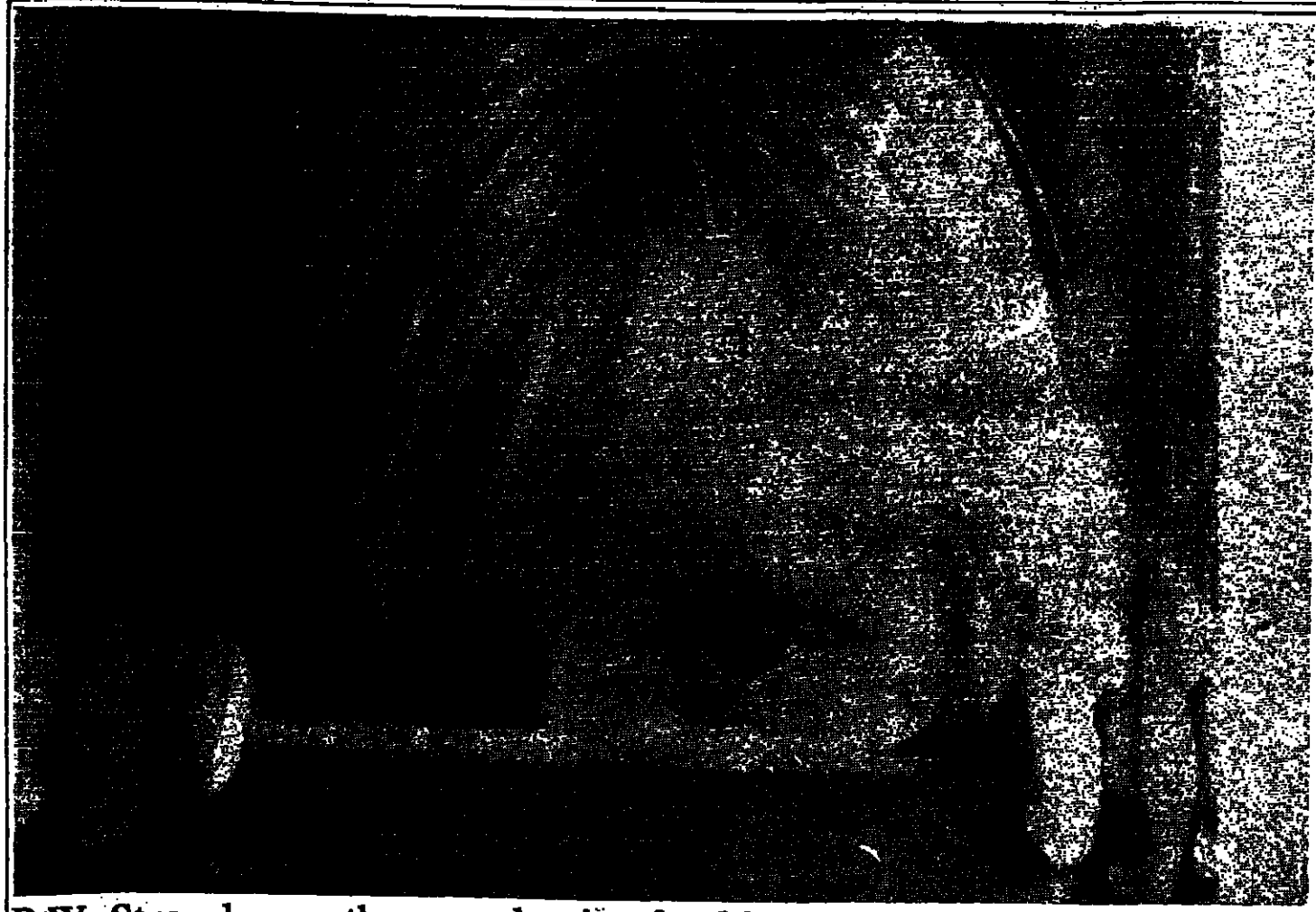
Higher-ups may hold back their thoughts about a creative project. Talks with financial advisers go well. It's a household improvement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) ♒

Seek cooperation re a new career effort. A family member may act against your principles. Talks with close ones bring p.m. cheer.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) ♓

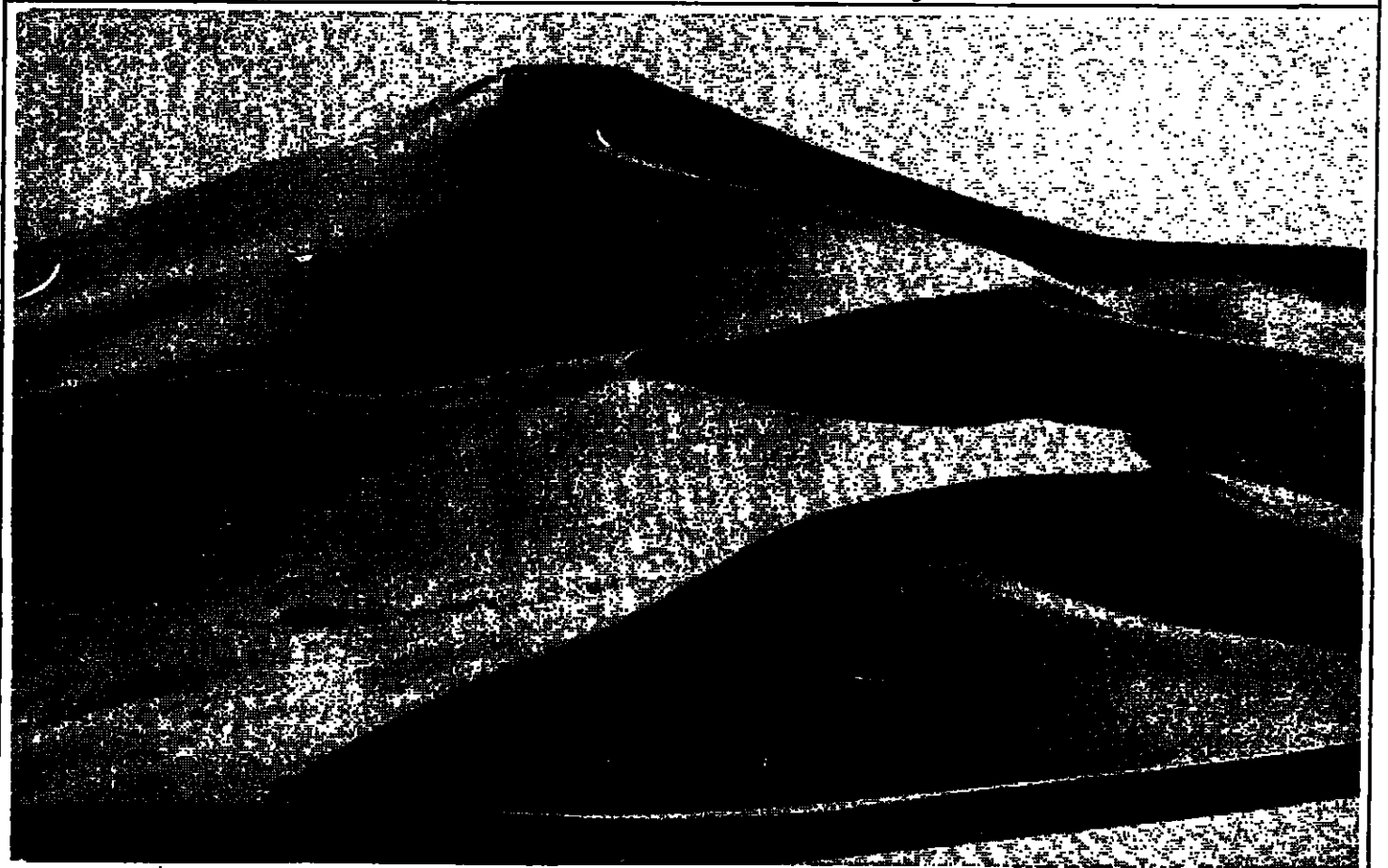
You may change your mind re a financial matter. Your best bet is to concentrate on work for success and financial benefits.



P.W. Stroud won the grand prize for his portrait of a child, "Emma"



In sports, the first prize went to the photograph of a boy on a skateboard and second to the boy on a horse.

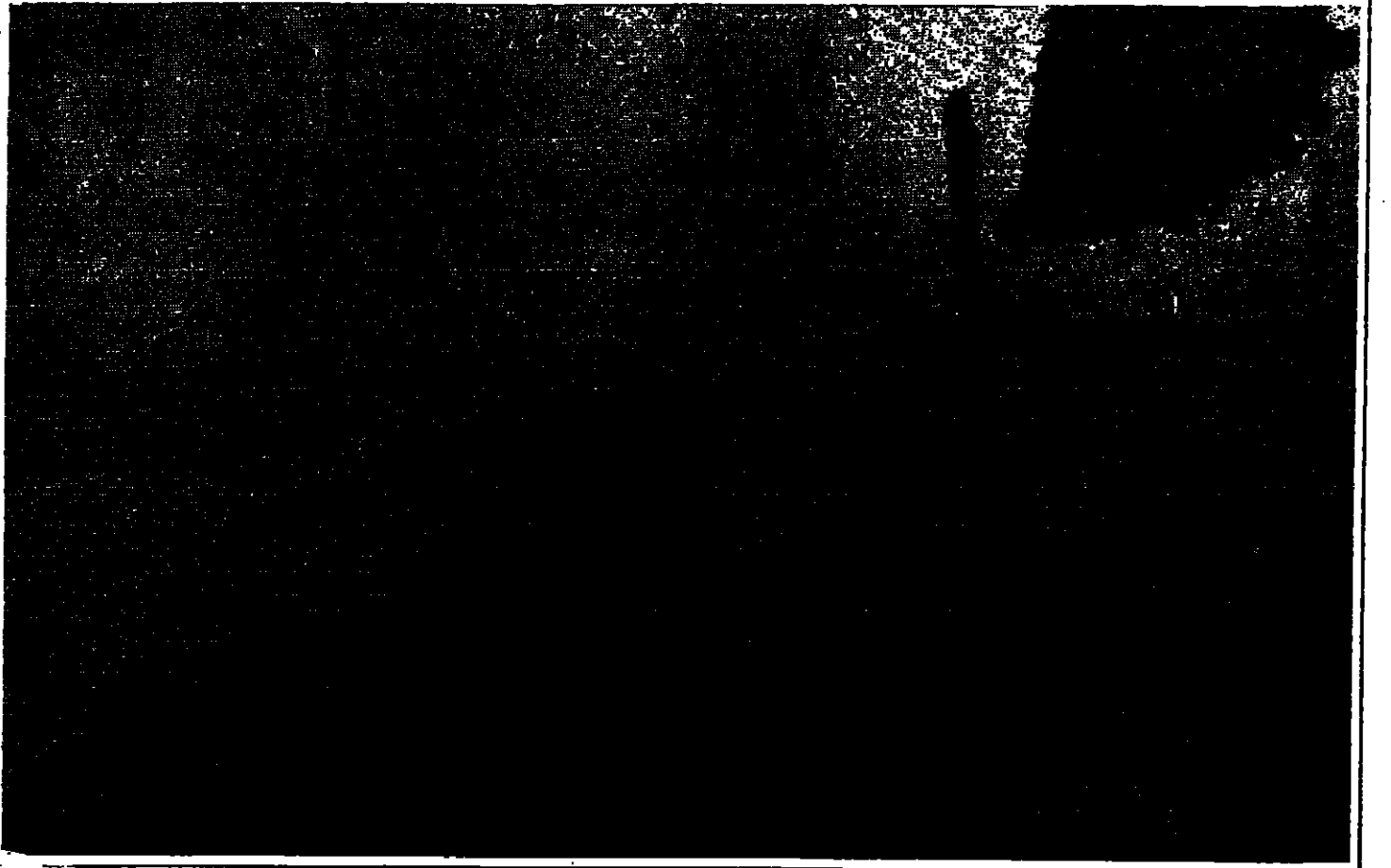


The photograph of dunes won first prize for landscapes and that of dhows was awarded second.

A selection of the winning photographs at the Swiss Week Competition held at the Al Gosaibi Metropolitan Hotel in Al Khobar. The contest was held from March 6 through March 13.



The boy, above, won first prize for photographs of children and the girl with a kerchief, below, took second.





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International

Promises inquiry as outrage grows

Botha disclaims army political plan

JOHANNESBURG, March 24 (R) — South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha Monday dissociated himself from a leaked document revealing a secret army plan to intervene in politics.

In a statement read to parliament in Cape Town on his behalf, Botha, who is also defense minister, said a formal inquiry would be held into the document's origin, compilation and contents.

The premier had ordered a copy of the document to be on his desk Monday morning after excerpts were published by the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* Sunday causing an immediate uproar.

The document, published at greater length Monday in the *Sunday Times*, sister newspaper *Rand Daily Mail*, instructed military departments to carry out a strategy "to nullify the opposition's attack on the prime minister during the budget debate."

Finance Minister Owen Wood presents his budget to Parliament on Wednesday. Whether he will give an overall figure for defense spending or details of military expenditure is a closely guarded secret.

The confidential document was drawn up by Major Gen. Phillip Pretorius, director general for civic action at defense headquarters in Pretoria.

It is entitled "Psychological Action Plan: Defense Force Budget Debate" and begins: "There are a number of contentious subjects which will probably arise during the defense debate. It is undesirable that they be exploited by the opposition to detriment of the government."

In his statement Monday, read by Deputy Premier Kobbie Coetsee, Botha said: "I have had the opportunity to peruse the document which the South African Defense Force has allegedly distributed for internal use with a

view to the debate on the defense vote. Both the deputy minister and I wish to dissociate ourselves from it."

Botha said his policy was to keep the defense force, the umbrella grouping of South Africa's three military wings, out of the political arena while positively involving the opposition in military policy through briefings and visits.

He added: "In connection with the document in question, I have found it necessary to order a formal inquiry as to the source, the compilation and the contents of the document and relevant matters."

Botha's government has barely recovered from last year's "slush funds" scandal in which huge sums of public money were allegedly used by the Information Department in an international propaganda exercise.

Botha is also trying to contain rebellion among far-rightists in the ruling national

party who are opposed to his plans for relaxing some aspects of this white-ruled country's apartheid policies.

In Soweto, meanwhile, more than 2,000 South African blacks packed a church to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings Sunday and noisily acclaimed speakers who assailed the policy of apartheid.

On March 21st, 1960, police shot dead 67 people and wounded another 186 in the southern Transvaal township of Sharpeville during a demonstration which was part of a countrywide campaign against the pass laws, which control the movements of blacks.

One speaker at Sunday's meeting brandished his own pass book above his head and said to loud cheers: "20 years ago they laid down their lives for this, the badge of slavery."

Rhodesian bakers join labor unrest

SALISBURY, March 24 (AP) — Thousands of Rhodesians were without bread Monday after bakers struck Sunday amid growing post-election labor unrest and street violence.

All of the 300 workers who struck for more pay at Lobel's Bakery were back at their jobs Monday. But 106,000 loaves of bread were lost, causing a shortage in many parts of Salisbury and surrounding towns, owners said.

The bakery walk-out followed a week of similar strikes by thousands of workers at factories throughout the country last week.

Disputes ranged from demands of guarantees from the government of guerrilla leader Robert Mugabe, appointed prime minister three weeks ago, for higher wages to immediate payment of pensions contributions.

"We do not support the strikes," Labor and Social Welfare Minister Cumbirai Kangai said after successfully urging the bakers back to work late Sunday. "But we do not agree with mass firings either. We would like grievances to be solved while the people work."

Some 2,000 workers at a shoe factory were summarily fired after three days of striking for better conditions in the town of Gwelo last week.

Employers in Rhodesia have the right to fire striking workers under old laws the new socialist government is expected to overhaul.

Meanwhile, the British governor of Rhodesia, Lord Soames, flew to Mozambique Monday to begin two days of talks with President Samora Machel.

Americans to be tried for espionage

ROME, March 24 (AP) — A leading Iranian Islamic prosecutor said Monday that those American hostages who are considered guilty of espionage will be put on trial and the rest will be freed after the opening of the new Islamic parliament in May.

"Those who have not done anything, or have done little, will be pardoned by the Imam (Ayatollah Khomeini)," Ayatollah Khomeini said at a news conference. "Those who have carried out espionage, or other serious things, will go to prison and be tried."

Khomeini, a newly elected member of the Iranian parliament, said the hostages' fate "will be clarified" after the legislature opens. He was responding to a reporter's question about when the hostages would be released.

Khomeini, wearing a white turban and brown robe, spoke in Persian and his statements were translated into Italian. He did not say how Iran would decide which hostages to try or how many might be freed.

Earlier, Khomeini said that release of the hostages also depends on the extradition of the Shah, who arrived Monday in Cairo after being granted asylum by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

The prosecutor, who ran the Islamic courts that executed the supporters of the former Shah, stopped briefly in Rome on his way to Tripoli, where he has been invited by the Libyan government.

The 50 American hostages Monday began their 142nd day in captivity in the U.S. embassy and three U.S. diplomats have been held in the Iranian Foreign Ministry since Nov. 4.

Speaking to reporters earlier at Rome's Leonardo Da Vinci Airport, Khomeini promised trials for those hostages "who, having acted as spies, betrayed the Iranian people. After the opening of Parliament, the traitors will be put on trial and will be jailed. The others will be liberated."

Tito's condition 'very grave,' doctors report

BELGRADE, March 24 (AP) — Doctors of President Josip Broz Tito said Monday there were no essential changes in his condition which remained "very grave."

In their daily medical advisory, the doctors made no further mention of their use of a new antibiotic to treat the pneumonia afflicting Yugoslavia's 87-year-old leader.

They had said Saturday they had changed antibiotics because the agents causing the pneumonia had developed resistance to previous medication.

Tito's doctors made no mention of any of his afflictions, which include kidney failure, heart weakness, pneumonia and a tendency toward internal bleeding.

It was Tito's 73rd straight day in the Ljubljana Clinical Center in Slovenia, a hospital where his left leg was amputated on Jan. 20 because of a circulation blockage.

The other afflictions developed after the amputation, ending his recovery from the operation.

Kennedy trails Carter in pre-primary polls

NEW YORK, March 24 (R) — President Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan are seen as the big winners in Tuesday's New York and Connecticut U.S. presidential primary elections, but Senator Edward Kennedy refuses to be written off.

Kennedy was bombarded Sunday with questions on how long he can stay in the race to deprive Carter of the Democratic party's nomination.

The senator shrugged off those questions and managed visits to a Roman Catholic church, a black Baptist church and a Jewish bar mitzvah banquet hall in his quest for a political miracle.

On NBC Television's *Meet the Press* program, Kennedy was asked about 20 questions. Two-thirds of them dealt with how long he could continue as the candidate who has been beaten everywhere but in his home state of Massachusetts by Carter.

The senator declared he hoped to win at the party convention in New York this August, and when asked if a defeat in the New York primary would at least force him to retreat to running his campaign in Washington, he said: "I can't do that, both chemically and viscerally, it wouldn't be right."

Then he left to revitalize his sagging campaign among black and Jewish voters, two groups that traditionally have been friendly to the Kennedy family.

The first stop was a black Baptist church in Brooklyn, where he was introduced by Pastor Samuel Austin who in effect urged voters not to judge the senator on Chappaquiddick — an issue which appears to have badly damaged Kennedy's quest for the White House.

There has been growing public disquiet about the senator's actions in the 1969 Chappaquiddick incident in which a young woman secretary drowned in his car after it crashed into a tidal pool in Massachusetts. He did not report the accident for some hours.

In ringing pulpit language, Austin declared: "No man is all halo and no horns. No man is all plus and no minus. There are some skeletons in all our closets. I give you a man, not a saint, not a god, not a savior, a true man. Who is there that has not made some mistakes?"

"He took a stand for us. We ask you to take a stand for him."

Then Kennedy went off to an enthusiastic reception from politically active Hassidic Jewish rabbis.



STILL FIGHTING: U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy makes a point during a political rally in New York, where he campaigned hard in the race for Democratic presidential delegates against front-running President Jimmy Carter. The New York primary is Tuesday.

Five captives may go free after Colombia talks

BOGOTA, March 24 (AP) — A sixth round of negotiations to free the 32 hostages in the Dominican Republic embassy was scheduled for Monday as reports circulated that another five of the captives would be freed after the talks.

Monday's session will be the first since the government and guerrillas deadlocked March 13 over a guerrilla demand that alleged political prisoners be released in exchange for the hostages.

Thirteen ambassadors or acting ambassadors and several other foreign diplomats are among the hostages, who were attending a reception at the embassy when it was seized by M-19 guerrillas on Feb. 27.

The guerrillas have sealed down their original list of 311 prisoners to a "non-negotiable" list of 28. Last week the government said it would stick to its refusal to release any of them and the guerrillas asked for talks the next day.

Two Bogota Sunday newspapers, the generally pro-government *El Tiempo* and the independent *El Espectador* quoting unnamed government sources, said five of the 32 hostages would be freed after Monday's round but did not say which five or when the release would be.

Dollar rides high; gold up slightly

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — Riding high thanks to the record level of interest rates in the United States, the dollar scored new gains on world foreign exchanges Monday. Gold prices rose in Europe.

In Tokyo trading earlier in the day, the dollar closed at 249.375 yen from 249.15 on Friday. Dealers said the dollar was helped by reports of a major pipeline fire in Iran since Japan is so dependent on imported oil.

Underlying a sustained spurt by the dollar against other currencies is the rising level of U.S. interest rates. Major U.S. banks are now charging corporate customers a record-high 19 per cent interest, which in turn means that foreigners investing in dollars get a higher guaranteed return than they could from stocks, bonds or most commodities.

Gold, which has fallen sharply from its all-

The most likely candidates for release would be from among the seven Colombians and four foreigners who are non-diplomatic personnel.

The last hostage to be freed by the guerrillas was Austrian Ambassador Edgar Selzer, who was released March 6 to be with his wife who is seriously ill in Vienna.

On March 2 five non-diplomatic hostages were freed apparently because the guerrillas thought them to be of no bargaining value.

Numa Quevedo, a special envoy of Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, said Sunday he knew nothing of the reported plans to release more hostages.

Several diplomats in the embassy also are receiving medical treatment but Comandante No. Uno, who leads the M-19 guerrillas, was quoted recently as implying that there would be no releases of hostages for medical reasons.

The hostages also include two Colombians with diplomatic rank. There are believed to be 29 guerrillas in the embassy, including the wounded woman.

Monday's talks are expected to be held, like the previous sessions, in a beige panel truck parked near the front of the embassy, at the end of a shallow circle drive in a quiet residential neighborhood next to the campus of the national university.

The government will be represented by deputy foreign ministers Camilo Jencenez and Ramiro Zambrano.

In the past the guerrillas have been represented by an unidentified masked woman accompanied by Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan, who has acted as a go-between.

After the fifth round each side said it would make no further concessions.

The guerrillas called their demand for the freedom of alleged political prisoners "final." The government said all the prisoners M-19 wants freed are being held for common crimes, not their political views, and that to release them would violate the Colombian constitution.

The government says it will fly the guerrillas out of the country but will give nothing more.

Saturday Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas repeated in a televised speech the government position that a peaceful solution is possible "only within the bounds of the constitution and the law."

time peak of \$875 an ounce on Jan. 21, opened firm in Europe but by mid-morning nervous profit-taking took some of the shine off the rally.

The London afternoon fixing of \$558.25 per ounce was up from \$544 at the morning fixing, and up from \$525 at Friday afternoon's fixing.

London's big five bullion dealers set a morning "fixing" price of \$544 a troy ounce, compared with \$549 at the opening, up from \$528.50 late Friday.

Closing gold price (in U.S. dollars per troy ounce):

	Monday	Friday
London	\$563.50	\$528.50
Paris	\$554.18	\$537.08
Frankfurt	\$556.00	\$530.52
Zurich	\$560.50	\$524.00
Hong Kong	\$542.95	\$525.53

involving manned Soyuz capsules and the Salyut station.

The last Soviet manned space flight ended Aug. 19, 1979, when cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valery Ryumin completed a record-breaking 175 days and 36 minutes in orbit. Most of the time was spent aboard Salyut 6, which was launched in September 1977 and hosted seven crews so far.

There has been no indication when the next Soviet manned flight will occur.

ALL OK: A watcher for the Colombian government security forces gives an OK sign after Colombian Red Cross workers deliver supplies and remove trash from the occupied Dominican embassy in Bogota.



ALL OK: A watcher for the Colombian government security forces gives an OK sign after Colombian Red Cross workers deliver supplies and remove trash from the occupied Dominican embassy in Bogota.

Good Morning

By Jihad Khazen

People expect poets to talk twaddle. And the poets duly oblige. This has always been the case, and will probably ever be so.

Take the pre-Islamic poet Amr bin Kalthum, boasting of his modest tribe: "The land is filled to overflowing with our armies, the sea overflows with our ships ... Or, as I most recently heard a Lebanese poet declaim: 'He who with our spears have nudged the very heavens.' All utter rubbish of course. But that is what poets always say. That is, indeed what people want them to say.

But what is proper to poetry when it comes to politics. Yet this particular fevered way of talking has for sometime migrated to political speech, and has made itself so much at home there that people do not seem to turn a hair when someone in a position of political responsibility starts uttering such apocalyptic tosh as would embarrass old Amr bin Kalthum himself.

The poets, however silly, you can at least take or leave. Indeed, taking their flights of fancy in modest doses are under proper medical supervision has been shown to be harmless, even slightly uplifting. But the politicians give you no chance. They are everywhere. On every airwave and TV channel, in every page of every magazine and newspaper. Even in posters adorning all available walls.

They do say different things, but the say them with that one febrile, apocalyptic, apoplectic tone: All "phases" of a certain situation are "fateful", all turns in a event are "crucial", all meetings or statements are "historic" (in addition, of course to being fateful and crucial). Smugly, wonder we don't hear much from our poets nowadays. Their stock in trade is exaggeration. But how can you exaggerate what has already been a thousand times exaggerated.

The fever has long passed down the line to the smaller ranks. A village elder Lebanon once called the journalists to meeting. This was in the time of the civil war, so the journalists went. He told them that a number of the village's young men have been abducted by the neighboring village and that unless this "fateful" step were rescinded, "world-wide repercussions" were apt to follow.

The journalists could apt laugh out loud since the elder was carrying a heavy walking stick which he kept shaking in a most alarming fashion. (The young men, learnt later, were released unharmed.)

Translated from *Ashraf Al-Awadi*

Explosion rips Italian mission in Belgravia

LONDON, March 24 (AP) — An explosion ripped through the Italian consulate London's fashionable Belgravia District early Monday, and a police spokesman said there were signs that it was caused by a bomb containing as much as 100 pounds of explosives.

A Scotland Yard spokesman said the six-story building in Eaton Place was "total destroyed" by the blast at 3:40 a.m. local time and a big fire that it sparked.

Police said the consulate was not occupied when the explosion occurred and no casualties were reported. But police evacuated more than 100 of the wealthy residents who live in the swank streets around the consulate.

There was still some confusion over the blast several hours after the detonation of the first floor of the building. Police at first said there were three bombs, later said there was only one explosion and some doubt about whether it was caused by a bomb.

But after Scotland Yard's cracked and terrorist squad and a team from the Yard bomb squad investigated, police reported they wanted to question the occupants of two autos seen speeding away from the area of the consulate soon after the blast.

Then at 7:30 a.m. Scotland Yard said there was apparently a bomb.

Yard officers said earlier that no group had claimed responsibility.

A fire brigade spokesman said of the gas left in the classically elegant square: "The roof is off and the front of the building has collapsed. All the floors have been damaged by fire."

It took more than 50 firemen to control the blaze which completely engulfed the building in flames.

Commander Peter Duffy, of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad, said it could be many hours before details of what caused the blast could be pinpointed.

One local resident, Margaret O'Sullivan, a 32-year-old housewife, said: "There was a terrible bang. Chips and plaster fell from the ceiling on to my face. I just laid there, too frightened to move. Then I got out of bed when I heard the commotion outside. There was no time to dress. I just ran out in my nightgown and my dressing gown. The place was raging like an inferno."

مكتبة المصطفى